

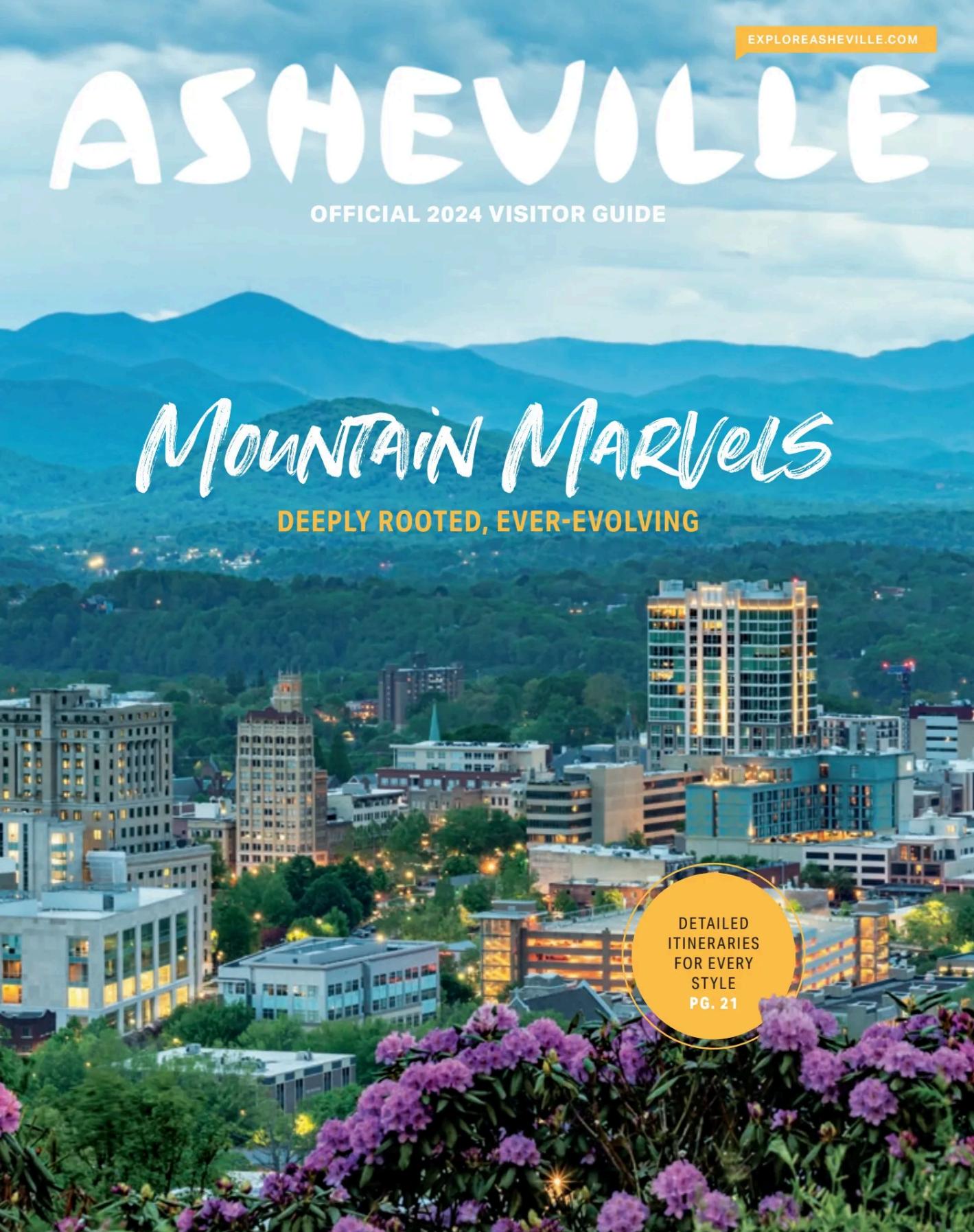
EXPLOREASHEVILLE.COM

# ASHEVILLE

OFFICIAL 2024 VISITOR GUIDE

## Mountain Marvels

DEEPLY ROOTED, EVER-EVOLVING

A wide-angle, aerial photograph of the Asheville, North Carolina, skyline at dusk. The city is nestled in a valley, with the Blue Ridge Mountains visible in the background under a clear, blue sky. In the foreground, there are several modern buildings, including a prominent skyscraper with many lit windows. The city lights begin to glow as the sun sets. A circular yellow callout in the lower right foreground contains text.

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ITINERARIES  
FOR EVERY  
STYLE  
PG. 21



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# Welcome to Asheville

## WE'RE A TIGHT-KNIT, INDEPENDENT

**COMMUNITY.** We're drawn to this magical place by its spectacular beauty, which nurtures and propels us. Our locally driven dining scene, vibrant neighborhoods, and spirited arts and cultural spaces reflect our embrace of creativity, collaboration, inclusion, and innovation. Here in Asheville, we're a mixture of flavors and a hybrid of styles. We craft and brew, paint and carve, make and cultivate. Come experience our dynamic city and captivating countryside. Dream bigger and linger longer. We are everyone for every single one; all drawn together to stand out. **YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.**

*Always.*  
**ASHEVILLE**

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## LAY OF THE LAND

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### CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS AND ARTISTS TO THIS GUIDE

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DISCOVER  
**WHERE IT  
ALL STARTS**

Welcome to UNC Asheville. Here, in one of the best small college towns, where big things begin. This is where an education looks a lot like exploration. Award-winning arts programs live alongside best-in-class majors in business, computer science, and engineering. Every experience becomes expertise, and connections lead to careers that can take you anywhere you want to go.

**ASHEVILLE AWAITS.**

All you have to do is start here: [unca.edu](http://unca.edu)



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Things to taste, see, and do, whatever your interests

11

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Explore our incredible food scene, discover the region's free attractions, see why digital nomads love it here, and learn how to make the most of your visit to iconic Biltmore.

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### CONNECT WITH US!

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# ASHEVILLE

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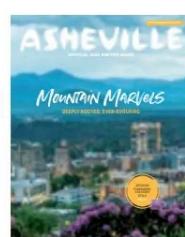
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### ON THE COVER

Downtown Asheville, framed by the

Blue Ridge Mountains

Photo by James Reynolds/Asheville Pictures

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# trail markers

## Blue Ridge Highlights

ELEVATE YOUR ASHEVILLE EXPERIENCE.



Sunset from the meadow  
at Craggy Gardens

[ExploreAsheville.com](https://ExploreAsheville.com) | 11

## trail markers



## THE ASHEVILLE SPIRIT

### **MALCOLM FORBES ONCE SAID, "DIVERSITY IS THE ART OF THINKING INDEPENDENTLY**

**TOGETHER."** His words epitomize the magnetic paradox that exists here. Asheville is a diverse but unified place where people are drawn together to stand uniquely apart.

The area's long-ago isolation was an incubator for an entire culture of makers—people who crafted pottery, furnishings, woven blankets, and other deeply rooted Appalachian folkways. Though independent creators, they learned to collaborate, share resources, and rely on one another to survive. That cooperative community spirit is alive and well today in the thought leaders and thought provokers, artists, educators, innovators, musicians, storytellers, farmers, foodies, and beer lovers who call the city home. The exchange of unique perspectives and ideas has birthed novelty in Asheville—think over-the-top comedy buses, newfangled brews, eclectic art, and distinct Appalachian cuisine. This ethos is arguably the secret ingredient that makes this place so compelling.

The not-so-secret ingredient that lures everyone here is the stunning beauty of these ancient Blue Ridge Mountains and the natural playground they provide. Hiking, camping, mountain biking, zip lining, rock climbing, fly fishing, or scenic road tripping—the area is ripe for adventure and suitable for all activity levels.

The lay of the land also provides invaluable clean water sources for dozens of breweries, and serene pasture and farmland for the grass-fed meats and bountiful produce that appear on dinner plates at enticing restaurants throughout the city.

And just as it was some 200 years ago when homesteaders were far and few between, the mountains are home to a groundswell of creative talents, who throw pots, turn out wooden furnishings, forge metals, weave textiles, and draw inspiration from their scenic surroundings. Asheville is, indeed, a place that has been nurtured by nature and welcomes all into the fold.

## LIVE LIKE A LOCAL

**TRAVEL IS FULFILLING IN SO MANY WAYS,** including how it introduces us to new cultures, histories, and approaches to life. It broadens our minds and perspectives. It can also have an impact, in both positive and challenging ways, on a place and its people. This is why Asheville kindly asks that you, our guests, be mindful of your impact by embracing our local culture as we do, with respect and regard for our people and natural places.

"Love local" is a rallying cry you're sure to see or hear around town. Our independent businesses are the city's lifeblood and the reason for Asheville's eccentric spirit and thriving economy. We wouldn't be where we are today if not for the millions of guests we greet annually. By including our many locally owned businesses in your eating, drinking, shopping, and exploration, you, too, are living like a local and creating a net positive effect on our community.

We also ask that you strive to minimize waste and practice "leave no trace" principles while you're here, so that our natural places can remain pristine for all to enjoy. Find more pearls of sustainable tourism wisdom in the "leaf buttons" throughout this guide—they offer handy tips to help you make a positive impact toward Asheville's continued resilience.



### **TREAD LIGHTLY**

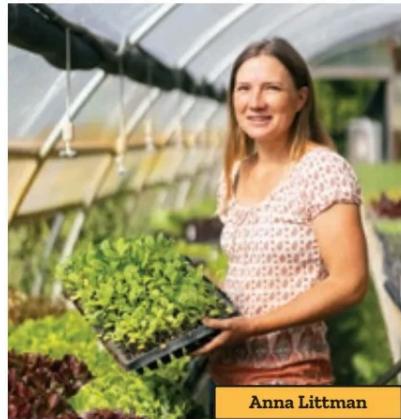
Consider visiting the most popular trails, parks, and viewpoints on weekdays and early or late in the day on weekends and holidays.



Ashleigh Shanti



Trevor Payne &amp; Jasper Adams



Anna Littman



Meherwan Irani



Meredith Leigh



Silver Locovozzi

## CULINARY WONDERS

**FROM AWARD-WINNING CHEFS** and friendly food truck vendors to craft cocktail mixologists, Asheville's community of Foodtopians welcomes everyone to the table. Here, locally grown, foraged, and crafted ingredients flavor everything from Appalachian-inspired dishes to diverse international cuisine. Here's how a few of our culinary luminaries describe what makes this area special when it comes to eating and drinking.

► "Farm to table isn't just an idea chefs talk about in Asheville, it's a practice," says **Anna Littman**, who owns 38-acre Ivy Creek Family Farm with her husband, Paul. "Chefs like Matt Caudle of Cûrate and Jason Sellers of Plant collaborate with local farmers to find the freshest lettuce and the sweetest tomatoes in our region. At our local restaurants, you get a true taste of Western North Carolina."

► "I often describe Asheville as this locavore utopia. There are makers for everything—cheese, pottery, beer," says restaurateur and former *Top Chef* contestant **Ashleigh Shanti**. "Asheville's lush lands provide us some of the best produce and foraging in the South."

► "Asheville is a temperate rainforest with a bounty of native plants and rich soil for our local farmers," agrees **Silver Locovozzi**, the nationally acclaimed chef-founder of Filipinx eatery Neng Jr.'s, which was a 2023 James Beard Award finalist for Best New Restaurant. "I've learned something new every season of living here."

► "The connection here between restaurants and farmers is far more personal than in any other city I know of," says **Jasper Adams**, who co-owns and manages Tall John's neighborhood tavern with its chef and founder, **Trevor Payne**. "At Tall John's, we buy some of the best vegetables in the country from our friends Evan at The Culinary

Gardener, Anne at Gaining Ground, Nick at Big Ivy Little Farm, and many others. We're so proud to see these talented folks when they visit our restaurant, eating the food we make from the fruit of their labor," adds Trevor.

► **Meherwan Irani**—chef of James Beard Award-winning Chai Pani—declares: "I couldn't have built my business anywhere but Asheville. I love that it's a small, family-friendly, progressive mountain town with amazing music, a vibrant arts community, and a world-class food scene—and that it's completely surrounded by stunning nature. How can you not be inspired to create here?"

► "The foodshed here reflects the synergy and biodiversity of the terrain," says **Meredith Leigh**, farmer, chef, and author of *The Ethical Meat Handbook*. "For example, Turga Brewing might use lemon verbena from a handful of small market gardens to produce a vat of saison beer. Asheville inspires me in that it values small-scale producers and encourages collaboration."



Biltmore Gardens

## 2.

### STROLL AMONG THE GARDENS

The 8,000-acre estate's exquisite gardens, designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, are singularly stunning—set aside at least an hour to explore them. Meticulously preserved tulip beds sprout in early April, and the summer brings more than 250 varieties in the famed Rose Garden before lush forests begin to showcase dazzling fall foliage around mid-October. Beautiful year-round, the gardens and grounds are particularly splendid during Biltmore Blooms, the estate's annual spring festival of flowers, held from April through late May.



Biltmore House

## 3.

### DINE, DRINK, AND EXPLORE AT ANTLER HILL VILLAGE

With seven restaurants, a bakery, a food truck, a wine bar, and two creameries—plus lodging on the estate grounds—there are countless enjoyable ways to extend your visit. Taste the outstanding wines at Biltmore Winery, or dive into outdoor adventures like fly-fishing or attending Land Rover Experience. Kids love meeting the friendly animals in the farmyard and watching demonstrations in the historic Antler Hill Barn. On Friday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons from mid-June through October, enjoy Live Music at the Bandstand on Antler Hill's picturesque Village Green.

## 4.

### SEE AN EXHIBIT DEERPARK

Attend Immersive art and cultural exhibits—such as *Chihuly at Biltmore*, starting March 25, 2024—inside the Amherst at the Deepark museum space. Across the road, the whole family can book scenic horseback rides at the Biltmore Stable.

## Biltmore Musts

Four ways to experience one of America's most storied estates

### 1.

#### TOUR BILTMORE HOUSE

At more than 175,000 square feet, the 250-room Biltmore House—designed by architect Richard Morris Hunt—is a sight to behold. The splendid former residence of George and Edith Vanderbilt spans more than four acres of living space replete with priceless art and antiques from the height of the Gilded Age. Still owned by the family's descendants, the estate today acts as a museum, offering a glimpse into how one of America's wealthiest families lived. As you explore the house (tickets are by timed entry) on a guided tour or self-paced audio experience, don't miss the basement pool, the bowling alley, and the areas where the Vanderbilt's staff worked tirelessly behind the scenes.



# LOVE WHERE YOU WORK

## IF YOU'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT SPENDING A FEW WEEKS

**WORKING IN ASHEVILLE**, or you've even considered relocating here, you're definitely on to something. This creative, forward-thinking region regularly appears on lists of the best places for digital nomads and remote workers. Part of what makes the Asheville area conducive to working remotely is the proximity of appealing diversions to enjoy when you power down your laptop. You're never more than a 15-minute drive from a rhododendron stand or a shimmering lake, a scenic bike ride or drive, or a cluster of lively galleries and stylish boutiques.

In addition to the many hotels with work and meeting spaces, the area is rife with Airbnbs and short-term lodgings wired with fast internet and other handy features. You'll also find smartly designed co-working spaces that offer useful amenities and friendly camaraderie. Most offer daily and monthly rates. Appealing options include the **Center for Craft** and **Hatch Coworking**, with their ample natural light and high ceilings; **Thrive Coworking**, which occupies a distinctive art- and plant-filled downtown space; **Focal Point Coworking**, in the stylish Lexington Station building;



and **Mojo Coworking**, set in a gorgeous warehouse. Literary sorts appreciate the inviting environs at West Asheville's **Flatiron Writers Room**, while **Asheville Makers** on South Slope is the choice of "tinkerers, makers, engineers, educators, scientists, artists, hackers, geeks," and other industrious creatives. **Town Corner Coworking** in Black Mountain and **Regus** in Biltmore Park Town Square are ideal if you'd prefer more of a small-town vibe.

With its array of inviting coffeehouses and friendly bars—many with conveniently located outlets, free Wi-Fi, comfy seating, and plenty of indoor and outdoor spaces to set up your laptop—greater Asheville also has hundreds of terrific spots to work while you sip your latte or IPA.

Roy Taylor Forest Overlook,  
on the Blue Ridge Parkway



## ACCESSIBLE ASHEVILLE

Here in Asheville, inclusivity is a deeply ingrained trait. Museums, performing arts spaces, hotels, and restaurants provide amenities and programs that allow everyone to fully enjoy their experiences.

In addition to assisted listening, **Wortham Center for the Performing Arts** offers audio descriptions for those who are blind or have low vision. With advance notice, both the Wortham and **Harrah's Cherokee Center** can arrange American Sign Language interpreters. The **Asheville Art Museum** has wheelchairs for free use, and visitors with visual impairments can borrow page magnifiers. Fidget devices and noise-cancelling headphones are always available to neurodivergent guests.

Many scenic overlooks and all visitor centers and picnic areas along the **Blue Ridge Parkway** have designated accessible parking and paved sections. And **Loyal Lifts** offers a full range of shuttle transportation services tailored to individuals who use wheelchairs or have other needs.



## Priceless Fun

You don't have to spend a lot to do a lot in Asheville. From engaging art and music to the great outdoors, free activities for all ages abound.

**MONTFORD PARK PLAYERS** Bring your own camp chair or blanket—and a picnic meal—to the Hazel Robinson Amphitheatre to see this beloved theater troupe present Shakespeare classics and family favorites.

**THE DRUM CIRCLE** Join the music on Friday evenings at Pritchard Park, where folks have been gathering for more than two decades to play drums and dance to hypnotic beats.

**ASHEVILLE CITY MARKET** Head here on Saturday mornings for produce, baked goods, body care products, candles, and occasional live music.

**SPLASHVILLE** On hot days, bring the little ones to this splash pad at Pack Square Park, with fountains to frolic and cool off in.



**MOOG FACTORY** Take a free 45-minute tour to find out how the company's innovative instruments are made. Try your hand testing out the current models in the showroom.

**WILMA DYKEMAN AND FRENCH BROAD RIVER GREENWAYS** Whether you're on foot, bike, roller blades, or a longboard, enjoy the views along these paved riverside greenways in the River Arts District.

**ARTS AVL CONNECT TROLLEY** The second Saturday of the month, take this free trolley that makes 20 to 30 loops with stops at galleries and other cultural destinations downtown.

**ASHEVILLE BOTANICAL GARDENS** Stroll the shady (no dogs allowed) trails of this 10-acre green space to discover native plants, a birdwatching platform, an authentic log cabin, and the peaceful babble of Reed Creek.

**THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY** This iconic linear national park is entirely free. Pull off at scenic overlooks to enjoy astounding views and stop by the Visitor Center and the Folk Art Center, with its superb crafts shop.



## CELEBRATE

Asheville loves nothing more than a joyful celebration. Here are previews of two exciting 2024 events.

### AVL FEST

**Early August**

This music showcase presented by Wicked Weed Brewing and Worthwhile Sounds debuted in 2023 and features more than 100 performances at some 20 venues, including concert halls, music clubs, and outdoor spaces. Last year's talents included Kurt Vile and the Violators, Watchhouse, Sarah Shook and the Disarmers, Touhab Krewe, and River Whyless.

### CHOW CHOW FOOD + CULTURE FESTIVAL

**Early September**

Founded by a slate of renowned local chefs in 2019, this nonprofit organization devoted to "celebrating and enriching the foodways of Southern Appalachia" includes not just chefs but makers, artists, and other creative spirits. The annual four-day festival features classes, tastings, demonstrations, and a main festival at Pack Square Park serving some 40 bites and sips from top culinary talents.

## trail markers



# ASHEVILLE WITH PRIDE

**FOR YEARS, ASHEVILLE HAS BEEN ONE OF** the South's most welcoming LGBTQIA+ hubs, a place where the slogan "y'all means all" reigns supreme, and both locals and visitors can unapologetically be themselves. In this inclusive, progressive destination, you'll discover a visible and active queer community that's integrated into every aspect of the city's culture.

### THE SCENE

Established in 1976, **O.Henry's**—North Carolina's oldest gay bar—is a sure bet for fun, hosting spirited weekend drag shows and karaoke. Another must is **The Gateway**, a welcoming, laid-back bar with outdoor seating overlooking the French Broad River. **Scandals** is fun for dancing, and see-and-be-seen **Banks Ave.** bar is a great hangout that never charges a cover and offers nightly drink specials. No list of queer Asheville hangouts is complete without **Asheville Beauty Academy**, which hosts wildly entertaining, glitter-filled queer events.

### LOCAL LGBTQIA+ - OWNED BUSINESSES

Although Asheville doesn't have one specific "gayborhood," many queer folks live or work in artsy, hip, and always surprising West Asheville. Here you'll find the queer-owned **Firestorm Books**, **Torched**, **Emote**, **Different Wrld**, **The Odd**, and **Palm and Pine** as well as numerous LGBTQIA+-popular eateries—**The Hop**, **Sunny Point**, and **Odd's Cafe** are local faves. Downtown, stop into the lesbian-owned honey shop, **Asheville Bee Charmer** for a free tasting; browse queer books at indie **Malaprops Bookstore and Cafe**; sip vino at **Crocodile Wine**; and go lounge-hopping with **Asheville Rooftop Bar Tours**. In South Slope, **Over the Selvage** specializes in Pride-themed fabrics, **Well Played** is a fun place to play board games, and Wicked Weed Brewing's always festive **Funkatorium**—the East Coast's first sour and funky beer-dedicated tasting room—has a huge mural of iconic queer activist Marsha P. Johnson.



### THE BLUE RIDGE PRIDE FESTIVAL

During June Pride Month, plenty of events take place around town—from drag brunches at **New Belgium** and **Hi-Wire** breweries to concerts by the **Asheville Gay Men's Chorus**. But Asheville saves its biggest LGBTQIA+ celebration for the fall foliage season. **Blue Ridge Pride** in late September is a wonderfully embracing family- and dog-friendly gathering that kicks off with a morning procession through downtown, followed by a party in Pack Square Park that continues into the evening. Enjoy dancing and singing, food and beer, and meeting local vendors at this fabulous free event.



Asheville Holiday Parade

# Festivals & Events

A vibrant mix of cultures and creative minds produces a lively roster of gatherings. In Asheville, we can take an everyday activity, throw in some passion, and invigorate it with a twist to turn it into a much-loved festival or annual event. Dates and venues are subject to change; please visit [ExploreAsheville.com/events](http://ExploreAsheville.com/events) for the exact dates and the most up-to-date information.

## January

**ALT ASHEVILLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
The Orange Peel, Asheville

**ASHEVILLE RESTAURANT WEEK**  
Various locations, Asheville

**SECOND SATURDAYS STUDIO STROLL**  
**Monthly, year-round**  
River Arts District, Asheville

## February

**ASHEVILLE CELTIC FESTIVAL**  
WNC Agricultural Center, Fletcher

**ASHEVILLE MARDI GRAS PARADE & QUEEN'S BALL**  
South Slope, Asheville

### DIFFERENT STROKES **Through October**

Wortham Center for the Performing Arts and NC Stage, Asheville

### MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL 2: CRUISING THROUGH THE CHANGE

Wortham Center for the Performing Arts, Asheville

### MT. MITCHELL CHALLENGE & BLACK MOUNTAIN MARATHON

Black Mountain

### NATIONAL ARTS & CRAFTS CONFERENCE

The Omni Grove Park Inn, Asheville

Taste of Asheville



### TASTE OF ASHEVILLE

A-B Tech Conference Center, Asheville

## March

### ASHEVILLE FRINGE ARTS FESTIVAL

Various locations, Asheville

### ASHEVILLE MARATHON & HALF

Pack Square Park, Asheville

### BILTMORE BLOOMS

**Through May**  
Biltmore, Asheville

### PILOBOLUS - RE:CREATION

Wortham Center for the Performing Arts, Asheville

### {RE}HAPPENING

Black Mountain College Campus at Lake Eden

### ZELDA FITZGERALD WEEK

Various locations, Asheville

Biltmore Blooms



## April

### ASHEVILLE HERB FESTIVAL

WNC Agricultural Center, Fletcher

### ASHEVILLE MAKER FAIRE

A-B Tech, Asheville

### ASHEVILLE ORCHID FESTIVAL

NC Arboretum, Asheville



### ASHEVILLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

#### MASTERWORKS 6: GOLDEN GLAMOUR

First Baptist Church, Asheville

### CONNECT BEYOND FESTIVAL

Various locations, Asheville

### DOWNTOWN AFTER 5

3rd Fridays,  
Through September

N. Lexington Ave, Asheville

### MATILDA: THE MUSICAL

Through May

Asheville Community Theatre, Asheville

### PEACE GARDENS & MARKET ANNUAL SPRING FLING

Burton St, Asheville

### STEP AFRIKA!

Wortham Center for the Performing Arts, Asheville

### WNC FARMERS MARKET SPRING FESTIVAL

WNC Farmers Market, Asheville

## May

### GET IN GEAR FESTIVAL

The Outpost, Asheville

### GRINFEST

River Arts District, Asheville

## LEAF FESTIVAL

Lake Eden, Black Mountain

## WNC YARN & FIBER CRAWL

Various locations, Asheville

## June

### 369 MONOLOGUE & SHORT PLAY FESTIVAL

Wortham Center for the Performing Arts, Asheville

### ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S THE 39 STEPS

Through July

Asheville Community Theatre, Asheville

### ASHEVILLE HONEYFEST

Salvage Station, Asheville

### ASHEVILLE IDEAS FEST

UNC Asheville, Asheville

### HOLA ASHEVILLE

Park Square Park, Asheville

## July

### CRAFT FAIR OF THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

Harrah's Cherokee Center, Asheville

### SHINDIG ON THE GREEN

Fridays, Through August

Pack Square Park, Asheville

## August

### ASHEVILLE COMEDY FESTIVAL

Wortham Center for the Performing Arts, Asheville

### AVLFEST

Various locations

### MOUNTAIN DANCE & FOLK FESTIVAL

UNC Asheville, Asheville

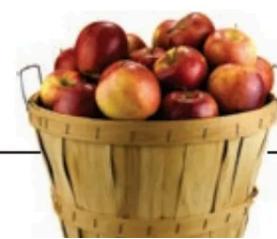
### SOURWOOD FESTIVAL

Black Mountain

## September

### ASAP'S FARM TOUR

Various locations



## LEAF FESTIVAL

Lake Eden, Black Mountain

## WNC YARN & FIBER CRAWL

Various locations, Asheville

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UNC Asheville, Asheville

### SOURWOOD FESTIVAL

Black Mountain

## September

### ASAP'S FARM TOUR

Various locations



Downtown After 5

## ASHEVILLE GREEK FESTIVAL

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Asheville

## BLUE RIDGE PRIDE FESTIVAL

Downtown, Asheville

## CHOW CHOW FOOD + CULTURE FESTIVAL

Various locations, Asheville



Chow Chow Festival

## NC MOUNTAIN STATE FAIR

WNC Agricultural Center, Fletcher

## SYMPHONY IN THE PARK

Pack Square Park, Asheville

## VILLAGE ART & CRAFT FAIR

Biltmore Village, Asheville

## October

### ASHEVILLE VEGANFEST

Pack Square Park, Asheville

## BEER CITY COMIC CON

Harrah's Cherokee Center, Asheville

## CRAFT FAIR OF THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

Harrah's Cherokee Center, Asheville

## LEAF FESTIVAL

Lake Eden, Black Mountain

## November

### ASHEVILLE HOLIDAY PARADE

Downtown, Asheville

### CHRISTMAS AT BILTMORE

Through December

Biltmore, Asheville

### NATIONAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION

Through December

Omni Grove Park Inn, Asheville

## December

### BLACK MOUNTAIN CHRISTMAS PARADE

Downtown, Black Mountain

### DICKENS FESTIVAL

Biltmore Village, Asheville

### ELF: THE MUSICAL

Asheville Community Theatre, Asheville

### THE BIG CRAFTY

Downtown, Asheville

### HOLLY JOLLY

Downtown, Black Mountain

### Elf: The Musical



► PLEASE NOTE: ALL EVENT DATES AND VENUES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

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# 5 DAYS 5 WAYS

WE INVITE YOU TO COME  
AND STAY FOR A WHILE.



There's no one definitive way to spend your time in the Asheville area, and with so much to see and do here, a jam-packed weekend getaway just isn't enough. Finding your path and plotting your stops can help you make the most of your time. Here are five of our favorite itineraries—tailored to everyone from fun-seeking families to gastronomy-loving guests. Ready to explore? **LET'S GO!**

[ExploreAsheville.com](https://ExploreAsheville.com) | 21



Navitat

## FOR THE ADVENTURER

Asheville offers an engaging mix of both invigorating and relaxing pursuits that showcase the region's breathtaking natural beauty.

### DAY 1

Run, walk, ride, or skate along the **French Broad River Greenway**. If your dog is with you, stop for some puppy mingling at **French Broad River Dog Park**. Then whizz above the Blue Ridge Mountains on the region's longest zipline with the guides at **Navitat**. End your day dancing to live music at the cool outdoor music venue, **The Outpost**.



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### DAY 2

Hit the pickleball courts at the **Asheville Sports Club** and pair your backhand with a cup of the ASC's strong coffee to help you send that ball over the net with some pop! Learn about one of the city's most notable Black residents on the **James Vester Miller Historic Walking Trail**, which points out iconic buildings constructed by this talented brick mason. Then surround yourself with dogs of all shapes and sizes at Weaverville's **Wagbar**, while sipping a local craft beverage.



Then continue the scenic drive on Alt US 74 through the Upper Hickory Nut Gorge area to hike **Blue Ridge Pasture**, reached via the five-mile round-trip **Strawberry Gap Trail**. Raise your heart rate while experiencing breathtaking views from this ethereal perch nearly 4,000 feet in elevation. Recap the day's adventures and quench

### DAY 3

Start your morning with a delicious Big Bear breakfast sandwich (Cajun fried chicken, smoked bacon, cheddar, and gravy on a fluffy biscuit) in Fairview at the **Local Joint**.

your thirst with a cold Session IPA at **River Arts District Brewing Company**.

### DAY 4

Paddle the river with a rented kayak or SUP from **French Broad Outfitters**—they also offer a six-mile guided boating excursions through the River Arts District. Dry off with an e-bike pizza tour with the **Flying Bike** company. You'll pedal your way to some of the finest slices in town, at whatever pace you're comfortable with. Next up? Honing your axe-throwing skills at **Axeville**. In their own words, "It's like darts, but extreme."

### DAY 5

Go mountain biking on some gnarly singletrack and forest roads in **Bent Creek Experimental Forest**, then recover with gentle flow yoga at **Asheville Community Yoga**, known for its inclusive and accessible classes. Come afternoon, laugh your way through downtown aboard the **Amazing Pubcycle**, where you'll sip, sing, hoot, and holler on an 11-person bike.



French Broad River Greenway



FOR THE

# FREE-SPIRITED FAMILY

Whether your group includes tots, tweens, or teens, you'll find plenty of fun things to see, do, and eat throughout the Asheville area.

## DAY 1

Cold brew coffee in a double decker bus? Why not? **Double D's** is centrally located and Insta-worthy for that first family photo in Asheville. After that, head to **Biltmore Estate** for a day of kid-tastic activities, including guided horseback rides at **Biltmore Stable**, and meeting goats, chickens, and other friendly animals at the **Farmyard in Antler Village**. Have dinner at **Cedric's Tavern**, with its excellent kids' menu, before treating your gang to black cherry-and-chocolate "winky bar" sundaes at **The Creamery**.



## DAY 2

Go for a romp at **Adventure Center of Asheville**, with its zipline designed for young kids and **Kolo Bike Park**, which has trails for all experience levels, plus exciting pump tracks. Head back downtown to cool off in Pack Square Park's **Splashville** interactive fountain before taking in an **Asheville Tourists** or **Asheville City Soccer Club** game.



## DAY 3

The **WNC Nature Center** is a family favorite; its more than 60 native species elicit plenty of oohs, aahs, and wows. Continue to the **Asheville Museum of Science**, where imaginative, interactive exhibits encourage hands-on learning. Round out your day with drinks, snacks, and a little friendly competition at **Well-Played Board Game Café**, which has 700 tabletop challenges to choose from!



## DAY 4

Grab your binoculars and amble along the boardwalk and trails at 8-acre **Beaver Lake Bird Sanctuary**, spying birds, dragonflies, and even butterflies. Extend your walk along the picturesque 1.9-mile **Beaver Lake Perimeter Trail** before heading downtown to **Cats at Play Café**, where kids ages 10-and-up can mix and mingle with adorable and adoptable kitties while sipping a Meowmosa mocktail. Then embark on **Urban Adventure West's** Amazing Scavenger Hunt Adventure, using your cellphone to solve clues and complete challenges as a team.

## DAY 5

**Rattlesnake Lodge** is a great close-to-town hike on the **Blue Ridge Parkway**—build in extra time to stop at some of the spectacular overlooks. Next, let your little explorers expand their minds by investigating the diverse artworks and kid-oriented MakerSpace at the outstanding **Asheville Art Museum**. End your day at Fairview's **Whistle Hop Brewing Company**, where beer is served in a red caboose and the grounds feature a food truck and a big playground.



Cats at Play Café

# FOR THE FOODIE

You could take a year sampling the endless flavors of Asheville's diverse dining scene without running out of delicious options.

## DAY 1

Arrive early at **Mother Bread + Wine** to taste why this bakery has become a morning ritual. Snag a jambon-buerre sandwich and a loaf for the road as the **WNC Cheese Trail** awaits! Follow some of the area's most beautiful roads along this edible route—don't miss (appointment required) **Blue Ridge Mountain Creamery**. End your day over small plates and stellar sips at **Leo's House of Thirst**.



## DAY 2

For a tour of James Beard-recognized restaurants, begin at **OWL Bakery** with a cardamom bun or a citrus curd tart. At lunchtime, head to **Chai Pani** and say "yes" to as many brightly flavored and beautifully presented dishes as you can, such as the sev potato dahi puri and kale pakoras. After walking off



some of your indulgences, savor a memorable dinner at the intimate, modern Filipinx restaurant **Neng Jr's**.

## DAY 3

Come to **Yellow Mug Coffee** in Weaverville as a stranger, and leave as a friend. Enjoy muffins and espresso drinks at a sidewalk table or on the covered outdoor patio. Then pop over to the **WNC Farmers Market** and fill your picnic basket with seasonal fruits and vegetables, as well as jams, jellies, and canned goods. Enjoy your haul sprawled out on a blanket at the nearby **French Broad Overlook**, on the Blue Ridge Parkway. For dinner, try West Asheville's stylish **Gemelli** trattoria, which serves up creative house-made pastas and well-curated wines.

Josiah McGaughey focuses on European cuisine with an Appalachian twist.

## DAY 5

In 2023, the team at the revered breakfast spot **Sunny Point** opened **Rabbit Hole** next door—stop in for glorious baked goods and strong coffee. Later, grab lunch in the River Arts District at **Guajiro's Cuban Comfort Food** truck. Their yuca fries and pan con lechon are heavenly. Afterward, browse art inside the adjacent **Asheville Cotton Mill Studios**. Save room for dinner at the vegan restaurant **Plant**, which is celebrated nationally for its innovative approach to meat-free cooking.

## DAY 4

Keep the hunger pangs at bay with a Latin brunch at **Café Bomba**, whose patio at Pack Square is ideal for watching pedestrians and music buskers. Next, stroll down to the **Gourmet Chip Company**—the 13-spice Southern BBQ flavor is a revelation. For dinner pull out a seat at James Beard semifinalist **Vivian**, in the River Arts District. Chef





# FOR THE CULTURE AND CRAFT CONNOISSEUR

Take in the region's penchant for all things creative through everything from tours to meals to hands-on experiences.

## DAY 1

Peruse the curated vinyl LPs at **Voltage Records**, **Harvest Age Records**, and **Static Age Records**, then visit the one-of-a-kind **Moogseum** and find your groove working the dials on a vintage synth. Cap off your day with one of the unique ALT ASO concerts given by the **Asheville Symphony Orchestra**. These feature jazz, pop, and other genres at famous venues around town.

## DAY 2

Start your morning off right with a mimosa while perusing the shelves at the **Battery Park Book Exchange** and

**Champagne Bar**. Then wander through the majestic halls and eclectic shops of the **Grove Arcade**. Recap your day over a cocktail at the **Pink Moon Bar**, a hip speakeasy where you'll need a passcode to enter. (Hint: check their Instagram feed.)

## DAY 3

Start at **Noir Collective**, a Black-owned boutique on **The Block** featuring dazzling art, books, jewelry, candles, and crafts from local makers. Grab pizza and a flight of ales at **White Labs Brewing Company**, a yeast factory that provides this key ingredient to brewers all over the world.



Lastly, sip on limited-batch agave spirits at **Anoche** before attending a performance at the **Asheville Community Theatre**, which has been thriving since 1946.

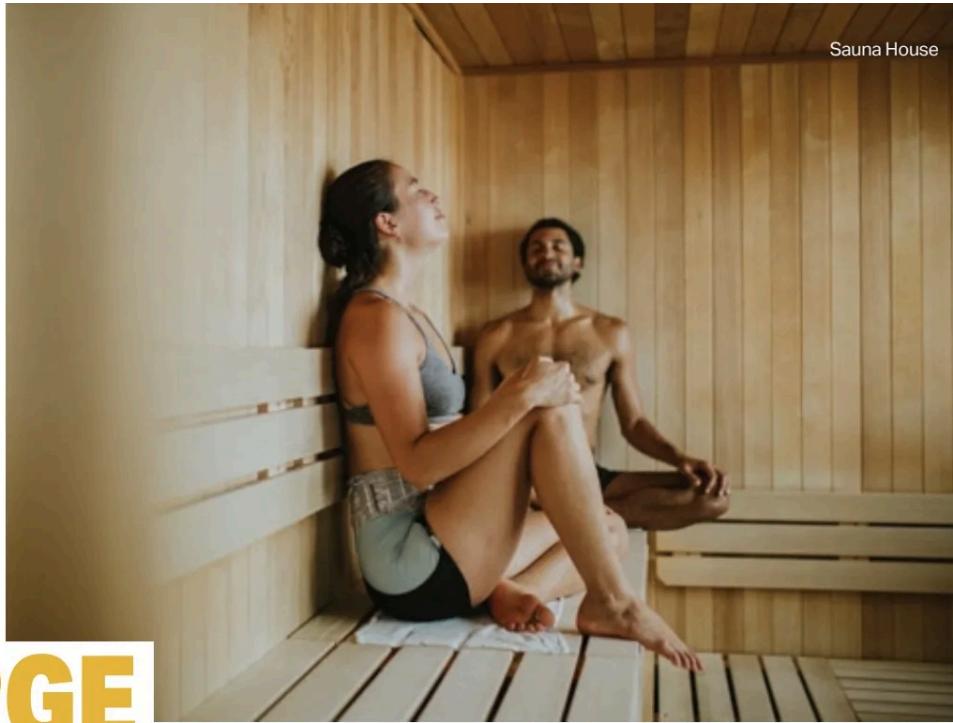
## DAY 4

To see regionally inspired works created by members of the exceptional **Southern Highland Craft Guild**, drive along the breathtaking Blue Ridge Parkway to the free **Folk Art Center**. Then stop at downtown's **LEAF**

**Global Arts Center**, embarking on a self-guided tour to learn about local music legends. Toast to a perfect day inside **Eda Rhyne Distilling Co.**'s tasting room—try an Appalachian fernet, made with regional ingredients.

## DAY 5

Pick up a charcuterie box **South Slope Cheese Co** to take with you touring the **Small Batch Glass Company**, **Lexington Glassworks**, and **North Carolina Glass Center**. You can even take a class, creating a work of art in as little as 30 minutes. Afterward, cool off at **Citizen Vinyl**, perusing contemporary records and classic hits (factory tours are offered on weekends). At sunset, join **Asheville Rooftop Bar Tours**—their VIP van service comes with a cocktail or mocktail at each stop.



# FOR THE SPLURGE SEEKER

In the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains, it's easy to find sophisticated diversions and glamorous ways to pamper yourself.

## DAY 1

Schedule a private sound therapy class with **Skinny Beats Sound Shop**, where you'll have a chance to learn to play handpans, didgeridoos, and more. Whether browsing or buying, a stunning collection of contemporary art awaits at the **Haen Gallery**. Then savor an artfully plated farm-to-table dinner at **Chestnut**, with its seasonally focused rotating menu.

## DAY 2

Unwind in luxury at **The Spa at The Omni Grove Park Inn** (accessible to hotel guests only). Gently transition to a eucalyptus-infused steam room or dry cedar sauna before reinvigorating your senses with a cold plunge or waterfall massage. Then relax into a 75-minute Total Indulgence Body Treatment, which includes a Swedish massage, dual exfoliation,

and a hydrating mask. Cap off your day with an elegant meal on the Grove Park's panoramic **Sunset Terrace**.

## DAY 3

Cross hot-air balloon rides off your bucket list as you soar above the Blue Ridge Mountains with the **Asheville Balloon Company**. Feet back on the ground, get some expert advice on reading the tea leaves at **Dobra Tea**, an inviting space to while away the afternoon. Then shop to your heart's content at the **Biltmore Village**, home to some 40 restaurants and shops set in handsome Arts and Crafts-style cottages.

## DAY 4

Tour the charming little mountain town of Weaverville, stopping in for a decadent pastry at **Well-Bred Bakery**, which received a nod from *Travel + Leisure* as one of "15 amazing small town bakeries." Stop by **Mangum Pottery** and **Miya Gallery**, two shops featuring

fine arts and crafts from the region. Back in Asheville, silence your phone upon entering **Sauna House**, set an intention, and allow your mind and body to reconnect during a soothing sauna and cold plunge session. Extend your sensory pleasure at **La Bodega**, where renowned chef Katie Button presents phenomenal Spanish meals.

## DAY 5

Begin an art-filled day at historic **Grovewood Village**. Then visit the **Estes-Winn Antique Car Museum**, admiring a 1957 Cadillac Eldorado Brougham. Surround yourself with salt crystals from around the world at the **Asheville Salt Cave**, where you can relax in a zero-gravity chair. Then immerse yourself amid the images from world-traveling photographer Benjamin Walls while sipping on a chilled glass of rosé at **Walls Wine Bar**.





# 1 MORE DAY

## THREE FAVORITE DAY TRIPS IN OUR REGION

Even after spending a full five days here, you may feel like you've just scratched the surface. And it's true. The natural beauty we've grown accustomed to in Buncombe County expands throughout the area, and Asheville serves as the ideal home base for seeing it all.

Chimney Rock State Park



**Great Smoky Mountains National Park** is just an hour away. Though it's the most-visited national park in the country, it's home to more than a dozen Quiet Walkways, where talking and music are discouraged in favor of the ambient noise of the forest. These trails are typically less than a mile long and are rated as easy. While in the park, keep your eyes peeled for wildlife including black bears, coyotes, and elk, which are especially cool to watch and listen to during mating season in November.



Take the road less traveled and wind your way westward along the gorgeous curves of the Blue Ridge Parkway to Highway 276. Stop at the **Cradle of Forestry** heritage site, where America's first school of forestry was established on George Vanderbilt's vast Biltmore Estate. Learn about the region's rich legacy of forest conservation through informative exhibits and fun and easy trails. Continue south to one of the most iconic cascades in the region, **Looking Glass Falls**. Bring your camera to this truly picturesque sight.



Behold the 75-mile panoramic views from atop a 535-million-year-old monolith at **Chimney Rock State Park**, where you can breathe in your fill of mountain air and take in the awesome vistas of Hickory Nut Gorge and Lake Lure. Adventurers can choose between being whisked to the top in an elevator or climbing a flight of some 500 stairs. Either way, the views are stunning year-round, but particularly in the fall when **Lake Lure** is framed by the golds and oranges of changing leaves.

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## 'TIS THE SEASON

Ask locals the best time to visit and you'll find favoritism for every season. Each offers its own allure and character. Spring and fall are vivid with color, summer and the holiday season are abuzz with vigor, while winter presents spellbinding beauty and tranquility. Try to make repeat sojourns so that you can experience all that the seasons have to offer.

*Your perennial guide to the Asheville area*

# SPRING

**FROM THE ROAR OF WATERFALLS** to the kaleidoscopic blooms of native wildflowers, springtime in Asheville is a rush.

Between March and May, the greening of the mountains ushers in a colorful parade of native flora, from ballerina-pink lady slippers and eastern redbuds to snow-white trilliums. Notably, **Biltmore** kicks off the season with 96,000 tulips and six gardens full of eye-popping blooms, including 250 varieties of roses and a conservatory with more than 1,000 orchids. The **North Carolina Arboretum** is a 434-acre public garden housing some of the region's rarest plants and a fine collection of native azaleas.

Springtime also marks the opening of farmers markets, offering the chance to take home the freshest local produce, farm-raised meats, artisanal cheeses, and foraged wild edibles. Festival season kicks off too, bringing a huge herb fest, **Weaverville's Art Safari**, the innovative **{Re}Happening** and **LEAF Global Arts** festivals in Black Mountain, the **Get In Gear** outdoor fest, and **Asheville Beer Week**. It's truly the season to experience the region's abundance.



## WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S BLOSSOMING WHEN?

Check out our wildflower bloom calendar at [ExploreaAsheville.com/asheville-wildflower-bloom-schedule](https://ExploreaAsheville.com/asheville-wildflower-bloom-schedule).



# SUMMER

## TUCKED INTO A BROAD

**RIVER** valley at about 2,200 feet in elevation, the Asheville area is pleasant even in its warmest season, with temps in the mid-70s to mid-80s most days. The higher elevations can be cool, making summer ideal for outdoor adventures. Waterfalls and swimming holes abound.

For an in-town cooldown, try standup paddleboarding or a leisurely kayak, canoe, or inner tube float down the French Broad River, pulling out for a pint at one of several riverbank bars.

Music echoes across the mountains this time of year too, with summer concert series and local and nationally touring acts performing on outdoor stages.

### Asheville

**Tourists** baseball games at **McCormick Field** downtown, and **Asheville City Soccer League** games at nearby **Memorial Stadium** present a raucous time for locals and visitors alike. From River Arts district explorers to brewery revelers to lively street musicians and patio diners, Asheville's summer season is vivacious.



### PLEASURABLE PADDLES

During the warmer months, when the days are long and leisurely, cool off with friends on the French Broad River.

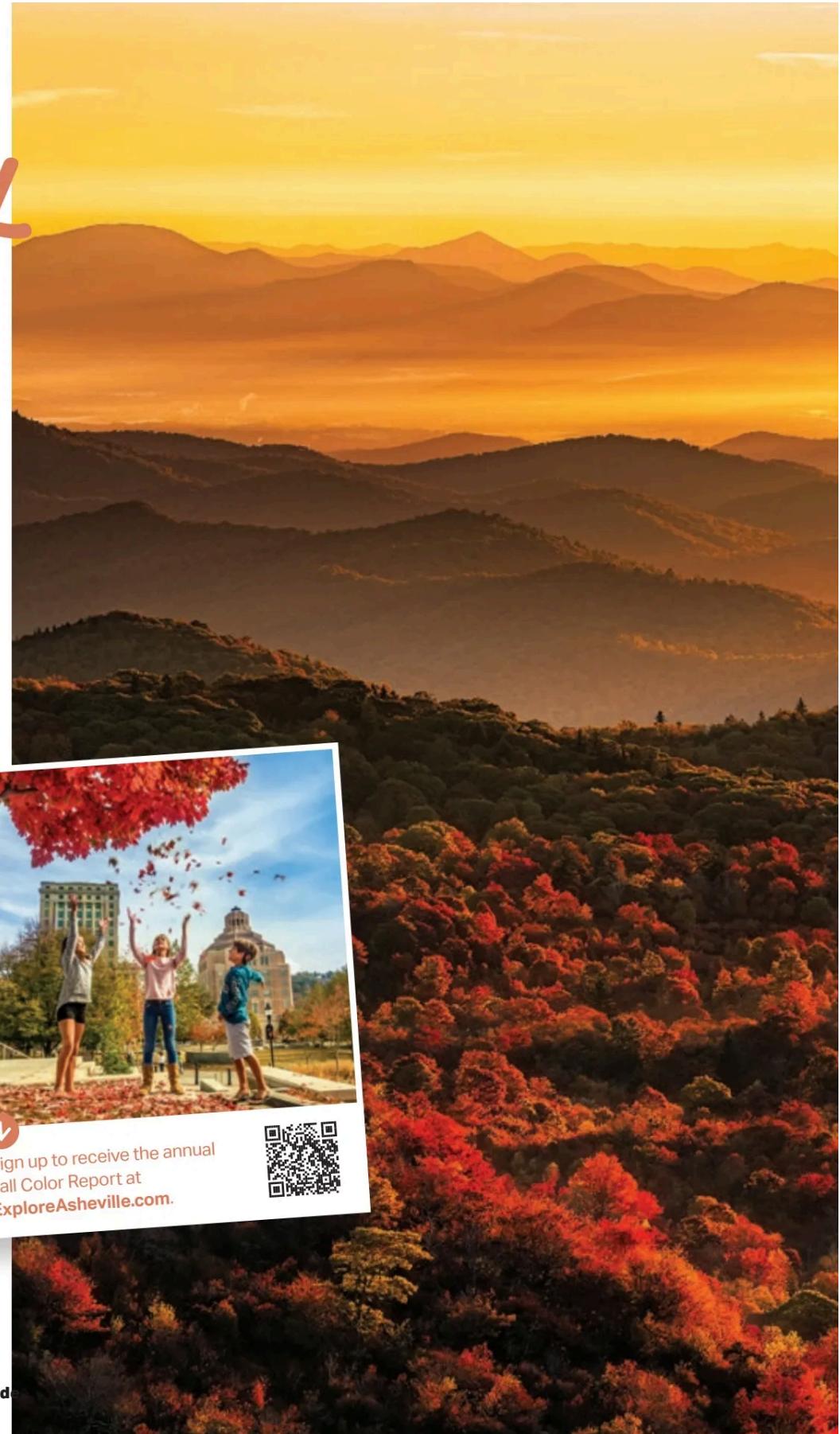
# FALL

## SUNNY DAYS AND COOL NIGHTS

signal the start of fall and harvest time at nearby family farms. There are apples in all their sugar and spice iterations, pumpkins to carve, corn mazes to navigate, bonfires and s'mores to enjoy and—of course—leaf season.

At the highest elevations, the natural spectacle of brilliant yellows, oranges, reds, and rusts unspool down the slopes of the Blue Ridge and Great Smokies in a foliage display that lasts from late September through early November. Joy rides are sublime, whether tracing curves along the **Blue**

**Ridge Parkway** or winding along bucolic country roads. The natural spectacle sets a colorful backdrop to other pursuits, too, like hiking, mountain biking, zip-lining, and fly-fishing. Good times roll every weekend with vibrant festivals and events like **ASAP's Farm Tour**, the **Mountain State Fair**, **Chow Chow Food + Culture Festival**, and the biannual **Craft Fair of the Southern Highlands**.





North Carolina Arboretum

*Holidays at Biltmore*



The Omni Grove Park Inn



A holiday parade



## HOLIDAYS IN ASHEVILLE

**NOT ONLY DOES DOWNTOWN BRIGHTEN UP FOR CHRISTMAS,** light displays twinkle at the **North Carolina Arboretum** and **Lake Julian**. The Omni Grove Park Inn ups the festive spirit with the **National Gingerbread House Competition**, where more than 200 immaculate edible entries are on display. The Victorian era comes

to life in Biltmore Village for the **Dickens Christmas** celebration. And on a grander scale, few places anywhere deck the halls quite like **Biltmore**; the château and grounds shimmer with twinkle lights, bedecked evergreens, ribbons, and garland. Santa comes to town for the **Santacon** flash mob/bar crawl and also for an epic rappel down the 315-foot

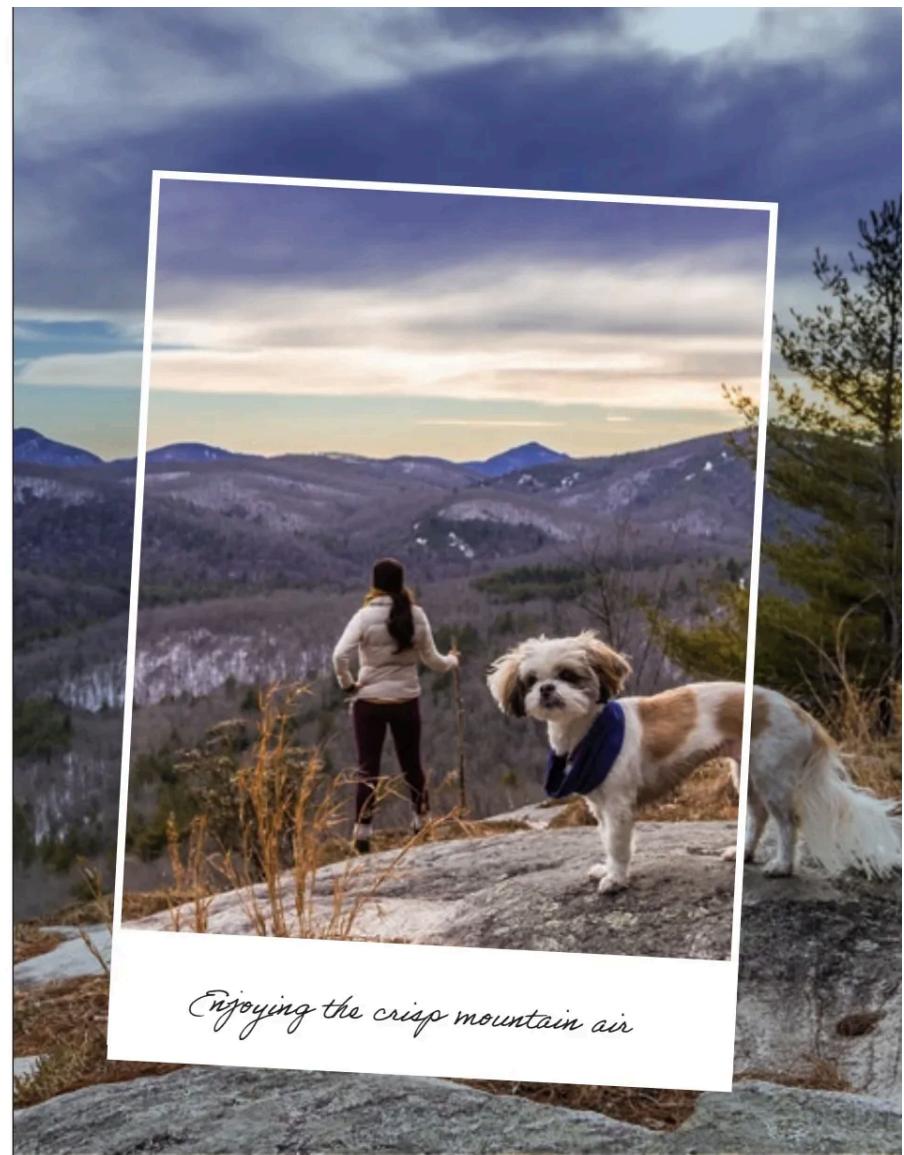
granite face of **Chimney Rock**. A rich tapestry of holiday performances—from the classic **Nutcracker** ballet to a solstice celebration of Celtic roots music to a rockin' Christmas jam—play out on stages around town. And between holiday craft fairs and markets and Asheville's myriad shops, you'll find an endless selection of locally crafted gifts.

**THE RESTORATION**  
HOTEL COLLECTION

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Located in the heart of Downtown Asheville, The Restoration is inspired by the free-spirited culture of our community. Savor Appalachian comfort food at **The Exchange**, sample local beers on tap at **The Draftsman**, and find the perfect sunset at **The Observatory Rooftop**. A Tasteful introduction to the Land of Sky.

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# WINTER

**DESPITE THE RIVETING SCENIC SHOTS** of frosty mountains against a fiery sunset, Asheville proper tends to see mild winter temperatures since the city is nestled in a wide valley. Given the moderate chill, quieter crowds, and opportunity for epic snowy thrills at higher elevations, a winterime visit to Asheville can prove delightful. Outdoor gear shops can outfit you for a serene February winter hike or skiing and snow tubing adventures. And you can always

warm up over a steaming cup of local joe, savor a candlelit dinner, or hunker down under a starry sky in a cozy cabin with a fireplace and hot tub. Winter is also a perfect time for pampering, and Asheville's many yoga studios and spas offer just the cure. From the luxurious **Spa at The Omni Grove Park Inn**, to a session at **Asheville Salt Cave**, to the invigorating hot-cold therapy at **Sauna House**, there countless ways to chill out during the cool season.

# Explore each season

FROM A FARMER



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Find out why everyone is talking about Asheville's food scene!

# CHOW CHOW

FOOD + CULTURE FESTIVAL



# FALL 2024

Don't take our word for it...

We're ranked #6 on the "35 Best Things To Do In Asheville" by Southern Living! Asheville was named one of the "Best Food Cities to Travel to in 2023" by Eater and #1 Foodie City on the 2022 Yelp survey!

**MORE  
INFO  
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# Lay of the Land

Cradled by some of the world's oldest mountains, Asheville and the surrounding area abound with can't-miss experiences.

Magic spirals out in all directions, from the pull of our mesmerizing downtown to the allure of points off the beaten track. Harness the power of our one-of-a-kind neighborhoods and surrounding small towns with this quick guide to what's where.

Scan the  
QR codes to learn  
more about each  
neighborhood.



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# Biltmore Village

Stylish shopping and dining, and America's largest home, await.



Biltmore Village



Red Stag Grill



Corner Kitchen

**SEE** | Just south of downtown, walkable **Biltmore Village** is one of the country's earliest examples of a planned community. Modeled after an English village of stucco pebbledash cottages, it's been designed in the same charming spirit of George Vanderbilt's grand estate, **Biltmore**, which you'll want to set aside at least a day to explore. The spectacular 250-room French Renaissance-inspired château, built in 1895, is surrounded by showstopping gardens and more than 8,000 acres of wild and cultivated land. Inviting restaurants, shops, and accommodations beckon. And Outdoor adventurers of all ages can enjoy everything from horseback riding, biking, and kayaking to falconry and clay shooting.

**SIP & EAT** | Several notable restaurants lie within walking distance of one another in Biltmore Village, including **Corner Kitchen**, a popular bistro serving creative Southern fare in a charming Victorian cottage, and sumptuous **Red Stag Grill**, with its refined steaks and seafood. At **Finch Gourmet Market & Wine Bar**, sip vino on the patio or snag picnic supplies for a Biltmore outing. Just southeast of the village, several renowned craft breweries await, including **Forestry Camp Taproom at Burial Beer**, **Hillman Beer**, **7 Clans Brewing**, and **Sweeten Creek Brewing**.

**SHOP** | This colorful district is filled with upscale boutiques selling linens, estate jewelry, garden supplies, and more, plus several art and fine craft galleries. **Gate House Gift Shop**, set in a handsome 1906 building, and **Provisions Mercantile** are well-worth checking out.

# Black Mountain

This tiny town is big on historic charm.



Black Mountain



The Roberta Flack mural



Black Mountain Brewing

**SEE** | At the southern terminus of the skyscraping Black Mountains, the scenic namesake town nestled in the Swannanoa Valley feels like a place where time stands still. Throughout this historic whistle stop, hand-painted **rocking chairs** depicting famous locals and landscapes front the early-20th-century buildings, many of which house colorful boutiques, galleries, bars, and restaurants. In every direction, you're treated to views of lush mountainsides. Discover the area's history, including that of the experimental **Black Mountain College**, through the engaging exhibits at downtown's **Swannanoa Valley Museum**. Enjoy outdoor pursuits on the lovely path rimming **Lake Tomahawk** or on the trails surrounding the beautiful buildings of historic **Montreat College**.

**SIP & EAT** | There are plenty of convivial places to sip and nosh, such as romantic **Milton's Cuisine & Cocktails** at the Monte Vista Hotel, Caribbean-inspired **Goldfinch**, and rusticly inviting **Bush Farmhouse**, which turns out inventive South African cuisine. Savor heart brunch fare on the breezy verandah of **Louise's Kitchen**, the shaded sidewalk patio of **Open Oven**, or inside **Pure and Proper**, which occupies a converted vintage service station and specializes in sweet and savory waffles in the morning and craft cocktails and creative bistro fare in the evening. The cozy **Dripulator** coffeehouse serves up rich espresso drinks and fresh smoothies, while **Phil's Bar-B-Que Pit** and **Taco Billy** are good bets for casual lunching. Before sipping a pint at **Black Mountain Brewing**, admire

the stunning exterior mural of local daughter Roberta Flack. You'll find several beloved live music spots in these parts, including **Pisgah Brewing Company**, **White Horse Black Mountain**, and **The RailYard**—the latter also features a craft and food market. Non-beer drinkers can sip at **Black Mountain Cider + Mead**.

**SHOP** | The streets are lined with cool shops, including the Appalachian craft galleries **Black Mountain Home Accents**, **Bramblewood**, and **Chifferobe Home and Garden**. Search for alluring vintage pieces at **Antiques on Sutton**, **Sassafras on Sutton**, and the **Curiosity Shop**. You can rent or buy gear at **Take A Hike Outfitters** and **WNC Outdoor Collective**, which also serves lattes and beers on a sunny patio.

# Downtown

Exciting flavors, unexpected curiosities, and fascinating history converge in the city center.



Asheville Art Museum



Grove Arcade



**SEE** | Our vibrant downtown offers countless layers of personality and history. Check out Asheville's historical Black business district, known as **The Block**; the **Thomas Wolfe Memorial**, which preserves the childhood home that the iconic novelist depicted in *Look Homeward, Angel*; and the architecturally stunning **Asheville Art Museum**, with its outstanding permanent collection and rotating exhibits and a rooftop cafe where you can soak up fantastic Blue Ridge views. As you explore, tune in to the city's distinct soundtrack. Hear music from buskers on street corners and spilling out of lively bars and bustling performance venues.

**SIP & EAT** | Downtown's wonderful diverse food scene offers up everything from international cafes to beloved

bistros helmed by James Beard Award-nominated chefs. Casually hip spots like **The Market Place** and **The Exchange** (inside the swanky Restoration Hotel) beckon with casually creative bites, and **Asheville Music Hall** and **Jack of the Woods Pub** are fun watering holes that present live music. Sup on creative plant-based fare at **Rosetta's Kitchen** and Hawaiian- and Texas-style barbecue at whimsical **Huli Sue's**, and be sure to explore the myriad food stalls at **S&W Market**, which occupies a gorgeous 1929 cafeteria building. Just to the north, the Montford neighborhood has several great eateries, among them **Nine Mile** for creative Caribbean cooking and **All Day Darling** for delicious all-day breakfast and lunch fare, plus the chance to stroll (or bike) through one of the city's oldest and prettiest neighborhoods, perhaps

ending with drinks at hip **Little Jumbo** cocktail bar. Nearby in the similarly charming Charlotte Street area, there's deliciously creative Mexican-inspired cooking at the upbeat **Taco Temple**, creative Southeastern seafood at **Jettie Rae's Oyster House**, and elegantly crafted, meat-centric Southern fare at **Bone & Broth**.

**SHOP** | Independent retailers thrive throughout downtown, as do galleries showcasing contemporary crafts and fine art—notable art spaces include **Momentum Gallery**, **Blue Spiral**, and **Ariel Gallery**. The vintage boutiques and quirky shops of **Lexington Avenue** offer plenty of funky finds, and within the glamorous gothic revival confines of **Grove Arcade**, you can browse everything from handmade dulcimers to rare books.

# East Asheville

This is where locals go for all sorts of family fun.

**SEE** | East Asheville is an inviting place in myriad ways. This cluster of neighborhoods has easy access to downtown, the **Asheville Mall**, and conveniences along **Tunnel Road**. But the area also offers a rural escape, as it's a main gateway to the **Blue Ridge Parkway** and its main visitor center (at Milepost 384.5), where travelers can stretch their legs while discovering the history behind "America's Favorite Drive." Animal lovers of all ages adore the **WNC Nature Center**, set on a shaded hillside above the Swannanoa River and home to about 60 wildlife species that live or have lived in Southern Appalachia. Black bears, wolves, otters, adorable red pandas, and the world's largest salamander evoke plenty of oohs and aahs.

**SIP & EAT** | You'll find plenty of family-friendly restaurants and bars in the area, including **Ultimate Ice Cream**, which doles out sweet treats loved by kiddos and adults. **Highland Brewing Company**, Asheville's first brewery, serves up tasty ales and features a rooftop bar, volleyball courts, and an outdoor event space with live music some nights. Long-running **Root Bar** is another fun spot for watching rock, jazz, bluegrass, and other bands, and pup-friendly and retro-cool **Hound Bar** is set in a converted Greyhound station. For memorable eats, **Filo Pastries & Post 70 Indulgence Bar** and **Creekside Taphouse**, with its dog-welcoming patio, are local favorites, as is family-owned **La Rumba Restaurant** for flavorful Nuevo Latino dishes. Savor juicy hickory-flame-grilled steaks at **Woodfire Bar & Grille**, NOLA-influenced plates at **Copper Crown**, and French comfort food at **RendezVous**.



# Fairview

Enjoy an idyllic day in the country.



Barn Door Ciderworks



Hickory Nut Gap Farm

**SEE** | As you head southeast from downtown, it doesn't take long to get immersed in the rich agricultural heritage of Western North Carolina. Follow winding roads to the working farms and creameries of Fairview, where devoted local families have stewarded the land for generations. Stop at **roadside farm stores** and stands for humanely raised meats and handcrafted cheeses, or even pick your own flowers fresh from the fields.

**SIP & EAT** | For delectable eats, **The Local Joint** serves burgers and giant pancakes—breakfast runs until 3 p.m., and **Trout Lily Deli & Market** carries artisan cheeses, fresh produce, and gourmet goods from local purveyors and also makes tasty sandwiches. Quench your thirst with a smoothie or iced latte at **Daymoon Coffeebar**, a crisp sip at **Barn Door Ciderworks**, or a frosty ale crafted with sustainable ingredients at **Turgua Brewing**.

**SHOP** | You can take a walking tour at **Hickory Nut Gap Farm**, where you can meet pasture-raised cows, pigs, and chickens and learn about the history of this venerable working family farm. Bring a cooler for the farm store, where you can pick up freshly butchered meats, plus other locally made fare to take home. Nearby **Flying Cloud Farm** has a roadside stand that sells seasonal produce and flowers.

# River Arts District

This hub of creative spaces and galleries is also ideal for riverside strolls.



**SEE** | Inside some 20 historic industrial buildings by the French Broad River, the **River Arts District** (aka the **RAD**) is home to nearly 300 artist studios and galleries. It's easy to navigate thanks to a beautiful city-led improvement effort that has created a paved riverside greenway, bike lanes, and landscaped sidewalks. You can pick up a **RAD Map** from any gallery and explore art in all mediums, from fiber to metal to paint. Each **Second Saturday** of the month (April–December), studios along this mile-long strip present craft demos and music. November's annual **Studio Stroll**, a weekend of block parties with plenty of food and drink, is also great fun. To get hands-on, attend one of the district's frequent public art classes.

**SIP & EAT** | When it's time to refuel, beer drinkers can kick back on the festive patios at **Wedge**, **Hi-Wire**, and **New Belgium** breweries. A smattering of spots serve up casual bites, among them **White Duck Taco**, with its festive riverside patio, and **Ultra Coffeebar**, serving up house-baked bagels, cookies, and pastries. Satisfy your espresso fix with a brown sugar latte at **Grind AVL**, and stop by **Mother Bakery** for a sourdough bagel or a slab of pesto focaccia—there's wine by the glass too. For elevated dining, **Vivian**, **RosaBees**, and **Bull and Beggar** (which also owns the more casual **Baby Bull** burger joint) all represent. Savor delicious eats at snazzy **Golden Hour**, in the new Radical hotel, which is also home

to trendy **Afterglow** cocktail and coffee lounge and **The Roof** bar. The **Grey Eagle** and **Salvage Station** are beloved for live music, and in the historic Cotton Mill Studios building, you can watch local bands perform at the **Asheville Guitar Bar**. At **The Foundation**, street artists apply their talents to the exterior walls of a creative wonderland known for coffee, beer, barbecue, and skateboarding.

**SHOP** | Beyond the countless galleries carrying art and crafts at a wide variety of price points, **Marquee** is a huge art and antiques warehouse that overflows with jewelry, textiles, paintings, crafts, and other treasures, including a curated bar and bottle shop.

# South Asheville

Unexpected local treasures take flight in this friendly neighborhood.



Taco Boy

**SEE** | One of the fastest-growing airports in the country, **Asheville Regional Airport** offers direct flights to 26 cities and counting, and is currently in the middle of an impressive expansion that will see the opening of a brand-new terminal. The surrounding area, known as South Asheville, contains a number of noteworthy spots to eat, drink, and play. For outdoor fun, the 65 acres of gardens and 10-plus miles of trails at the **North Carolina Arboretum** offer educational and outdoor pursuits that delight visitors of all ages. It's part of the expansive **Bent Creek Experimental Forest** and is adjacent to the **Blue Ridge Parkway** and **Lake Powhatan Recreation Area**—popular for fishing, hiking, swimming, and

glamping. **Lake Julian Park** is another draw for waterfront recreation, including boating and disc golf.

**SIP & EAT** | The small community of Arden has extensive dining options, with outposts of renowned downtown restaurants like **Tupelo Honey**, **Biscuit Head**, and **12 Bones Smokehouse** (with its colorful murals and barbecue-sauce bar). Other nearby eateries of note include laid-back but stylish **Post 25 Kitchen & Lounge** and cozy **Fahrenheit Pizza & Brewhouse**. Amid the retailers in the attractive mixed-use Biltmore Park community, restaurants like **Forklore**, **Luella's Bar-B-Que**, **Taco Boy**, and the **Thirsty Monk** offer mouthwatering sus-

tenance. Before or after a hike or drive on the Blue Ridge Parkway, enjoy Salvadoran and Mexican bites at down-home **Mary's Burritos and Beer**. With its gracious gardens and patios, **Sierra Nevada Brewery** is a quick jaunt from the airport, as is funky **Blue Ghost Brewing**, which has a leafy family- and pet-friendly beer garden known as Firefly Yard.

**SHOP** | The attractive planned community of **Biltmore Park** beckons visitors with shopping, dining, and entertainment—all situated around a landscaped town square. Here you'll find branches of nationally known retailers like **Athleta**, **Barnes & Noble**, and **Orvis**, plus a Thursday farmers market in summer.

# South Slope

Breweries and eateries thrive in this up-and-coming district adjacent to downtown.



**SEE** | Extending from downtown for several blocks down a gradual incline, this compact quadrant of renovated historic industrial buildings serves as the city's unofficial brewery district, but you'll also find a noteworthy restaurants, retailers, and galleries. There's ample parking nearby at the eight-story Sears Alley garage. Be sure to check out the nearly 20 colorful artworks along the **South Slope Mural Trail** ([exploreasheville.com/south-slope-mural-trail](http://exploreasheville.com/south-slope-mural-trail)). Just across Biltmore Avenue, catch a pro baseball game at historic **McCormick Field**—home of the minor league **Asheville Tourists**—and watch semi-pro soccer and football at neighboring **Memorial Stadium**.

**SIP & EAT** | One of the country's most dynamic craft-brewing districts, South Slope also has a hot restaurant scene. Tuck into plates of tender pulled pork and chicken barbecue on the expansive patio at **Bear's Smokehouse**.



Sip unique brews at **Wicked Weed's Funkatorium**, before dining on innovative American fare—think dry-aged squab with summer truffles, or burnt-cinnamon crema with black-ant ice cream—in neighboring, **Cultura**. You'll want to take a selfie in the wildly colorful bathroom hallway. **Chemist Spirits** produces award-winning gins and whiskeys, which are used to make the creative drinks at the adjacent **Antidote Cocktail Lounge**. Stylish **Storm Rhum Bar** serves some of the best mojitos in town, along with creative gastropub fare. Sample a pint or a flight of ales at **Eurisko Beer Company**, **Catawba Brewing**, **Twin Leaf**

**Brewery**, or **Burial Beer Co.**, with its multiple outdoor seating areas, pop art vending machines, and satisfying pub fare. Enjoy more superb beers at **Hi-Wire Brewing** as well as retro-cool cocktails in the brewery's colorful **Tiki Easy Bar** speakeasy. And catch a live indie-spirited music show or a movie at **Rabbit Rabbit**, while enjoying tacos and local ales.

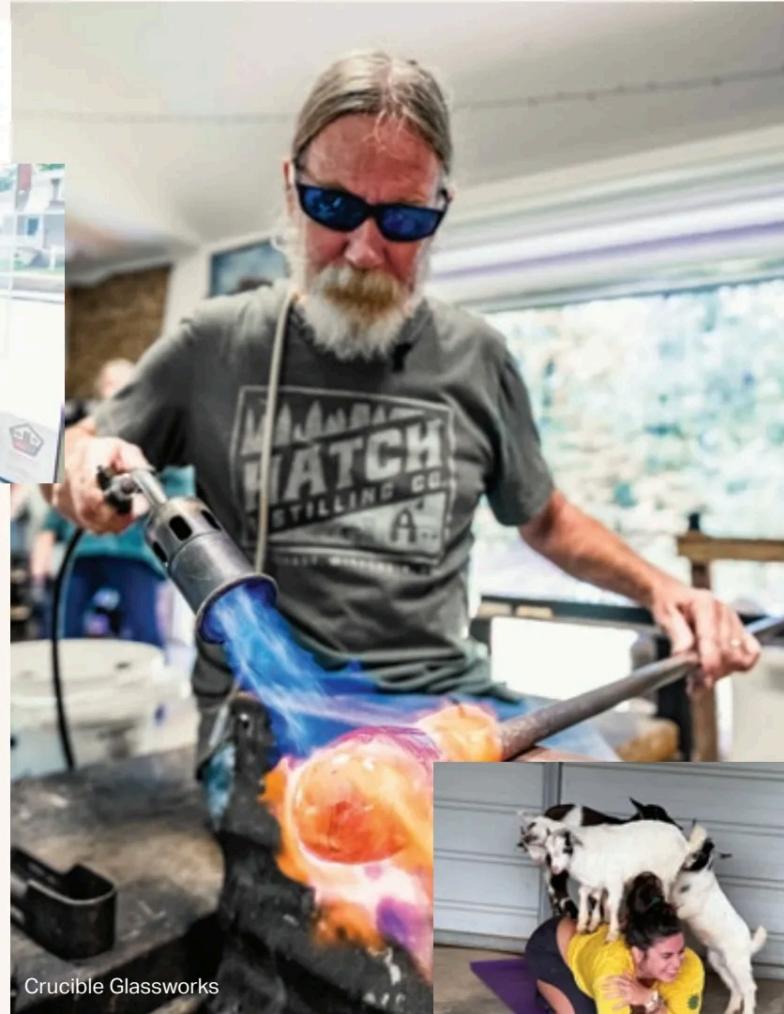
**SHOP** | Among South Slope's many creative spaces, check out the striking contemporary works at **Tracey Morgan Gallery** and the sleek yet practical ceramic art and housewares at **Bright Angle** pottery shop.

# Weaverville and Vicinity

Experience rolling farms, emerald forests, and small-town charms.



Yellow Mug Coffee



Crucible Glassworks



Franny's Farm Goat Yoga

**SEE** | North of the city, the pace slows down in postcard-perfect Weaverville, with several galleries, shops, and eateries lining Mayberry-esque Main Street. Stroll through leafy **Main Street Nature Park**, reading the signs identifying local tree species, and around the tranquil waters of **Lake Louise Park**. Farther north in rural **Barnardsville**, 70-foot **Douglas Falls** and the trails of **Big Ivy** (aka the Coleman Boundary) draw outdoorsy types, who also love tackling the thrilling zip lines at **Navitat Canopy Adventures**. To the west, in pastoral **Leicester**, you can explore industrial hemp production and goat yoga at **Franny's Farm**, shop for handcrafted artisan cheeses at **Mount Gilead Farm** (which also has yoga classes featuring adorable goats), and enjoy wine tastings and engaging tours at **Addison Farms Vineyard**, where you can also have a relaxing picnic on the gorgeous grounds (they sell gourmet snacks in the tasting room).

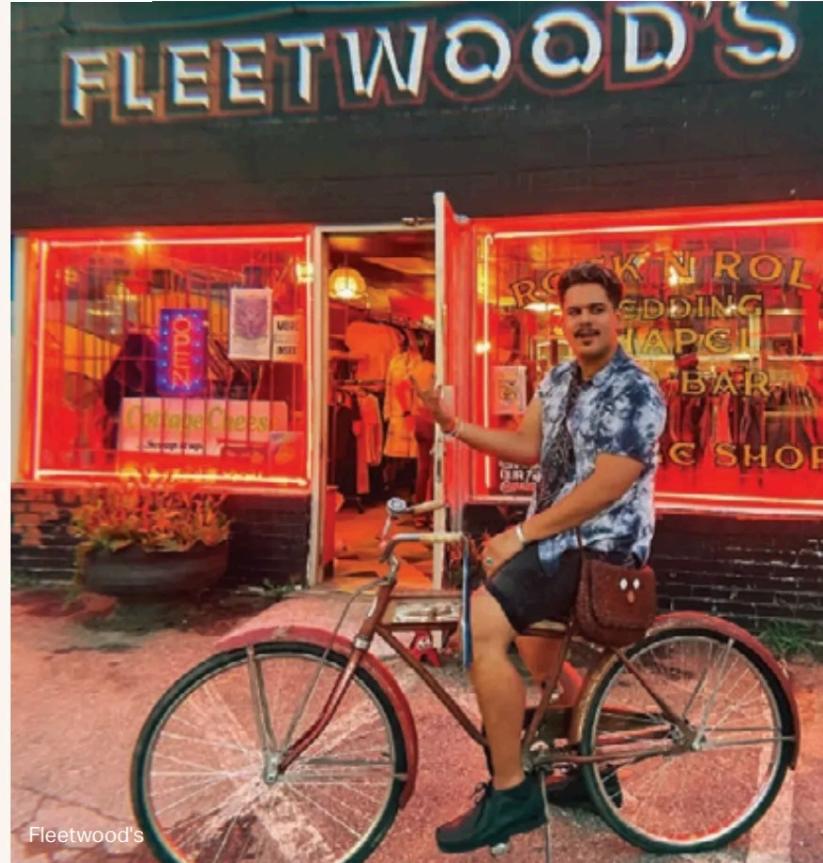
**SIP & EAT** | Favorite haunts for a bite to eat include **Well-Bred Bakery & Cafe** for delectable sweets and hearty sandwiches, **Allgood Coffee** for drinks made

with house-roasted beans, **Twisted Laurel** to savor Mediterranean-inspired bistro fare, and **Blue Mountain Pizza**, which serves tasty pies with creative toppings and offers live local music many evenings. **Eluvium Brewing** dispenses fine Belgian blondes and Helles German lagers on its covered back patio, while **Leveller Brewing** serves well-balanced IPAs and saisons, along with natural wines and tasty bar nibbles.

**SHOP** | You'll find a few exceptional galleries in town, including **Crucible Glassworks** and **Mangum Pottery**. **Honey & The Hive** carries beeswax candles, basil-infused honey, and kits for making your own mead. Out in the countryside, the handmade wares at **Reems Creek Pottery** are stunning.



Taco Boy



Fleetwood's

**SEE** | Mingle with the cool kids (of all ages!) in West Asheville, where anything goes and everyone is warmly welcomed. Pick your passion—whether that's fresh ramen or fresh tattoo ink, rare vinyl or retro arcade games—among the hip hangouts of Haywood Road. Fans of the outdoors will find plenty to do along the French Broad River at **Carrier Park**'s extensive sports facilities and **Cultivate Climbing**'s gym.

**SIP & EAT** | Indie eateries and buzzy bars dominate the distinctive West Asheville scene. Sample delicious Indian street food at newcomer **Botiwalla**, by James Beard Award-winning chef

Meherwan Irani. Try locally sourced but globally inspired plates at romantic **Jargon**, and creative Mexican street food (quesabirria tacos, hibiscus margaritas) at festive **Taco Boy**, with its kid- and pup-friendly patio. Old-school **Tastee Diner** dates to the 1940s but features creative modern fare by acclaimed chef Steven Goff (try the Asian-style whole fried fish). This is one of the region's top neighborhoods for delicious breakfasts, with **Sunny Point Cafe**, **OWL Bakery**, **Biscuit Head**, and **Tiger Bay Cafe** (inside equally inviting **BattleCat Coffee Bar**) leading the charge. You'll find a slew of friendly bars and live-entertainment venues, including **Fleetwood's**, with its

own Vegas-style wedding chapel, and the laid-back **Golden Pineapple**, which turns out superb bar victuals. **Archetype Brewing** and **The Whale** are fun watering holes for sampling first-rate craft beer.

**SHOP** | Funky and fabulous boutiques line Haywood Road, including **Ware**, which specializes in sustainable household items and gifts; whimsical **Instant Karma**, Asheville's self-described "one-stop hippie shop;" and **Sparky's Toys & Gifts**, with its array of campy retro goods and colorful oddities. A bit south, the **WNC Farmers Market** is packed with local honeys, jams, pickled veggies, baked goods, and other delectables.

## West Asheville

Head west for indie retail, cool dining, and chill vibes.

# Woodfin and North Asheville

Take in serene riverside parks at a leisurely pace.



Tailgate Market



Little D's



Silver-Line Park

**SEE** | A few miles north of downtown, this region has an easygoing vibe that meanders like the scenic French Broad River, whose verdant parks are ideal for enjoying a leisurely picnic or a morning stroll. **Ledges Whitewater River Park** offers thrilling options for adrenaline-seeking paddlers who can perfect their skills and hit the rapids from the easily accessible boat launch. More novice kayakers and rafters can enjoy the Class II runs or float and fish their way along the five-mile journey to **Walnut Island**. At serene **Lake View Park**, pleasant walking trails fringe the north shore of Beaver Lake, leading to **Beaver Lake Bird Sanctuary**—a prime place to observe myriad winged creatures, including butterflies and dragonflies. Adjacent to the campus of

UNC Asheville, the **Botanical Gardens at Asheville** offer peaceful trails alongside gurgling Reed Creek. Next to the legendary Omni Grove Park Inn, **Groveswood Village** comprises a campus of handsome Arts and Crafts buildings that house the engaging **Biltmore Industries Homespun Museum** and **Estes-Winn Antique Car Museum**.

**SIP & EAT** | The area's many eateries and bars cater to college students, river enthusiasts, and locals, and specialize in a diverse mix of cuisines. Try **Little D's** for shareable plates of locally sourced fare, from bone marrow with onion jam to citrus-miso-glazed duck breast, and **Rye Knot** to sample artfully plated gastropub fare. Head to **Vinnie's Neighborhood**

**Italian** and **828 Family Pizzeria** for tasty pizzas and well-curated drinks lists. Newcomer **Salt Face Mule Brewing** boasts its own 36-hole mini golf course and remote-control car track; other hot spots for refreshing drinks include **Ginger's Revenge** for craft ginger beer and **Outsider Brewing Company** for European-inspired ales that have earned a devoted following.

**SHOP** | In historic Groveswood Village, you can tour art studios and browse the exquisite works at the **Groveswood Gallery** and **Gallery of the Mountains**. On Saturday mornings, see what's fresh and delicious at the exceptional **North Asheville Tailgate Market**, on the campus of UNC Asheville.

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# taste

## Exploring Foodtopia

DISCOVER THE SURPRISING DELIGHTS OF THE  
ASHEVILLE AREA'S INNOVATIVE CULINARY SCENE

Applewood-smoked  
mushrooms, fennel  
salad, and cauliflower  
risotto from the  
celebrated vegan  
restaurant Plant



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## taste

# LOCALLY GROWN

### LOCALS KNOW IF THEY WANT THEIR PICK OF

**PRODUCE** they'd better arrive at their weekly neighborhood farmers market before chefs arrive and pack their wagons with the best local produce. Farming has always thrived in this fertile region, and its ever-growing mix of sustainably driven eateries enthusiastically supports local agriculture. It's a collaborative relationship that results in endless opportunities to sample freshly procured and creatively prepared local ingredients year round. Here are just a few examples of the celebrated restaurants that embrace this ethos.

**Rhubarb** is one of several eateries that touts its extensive farm partnerships on the menu, and **Plant**'s entirely vegan repasts rely on a network of farmers and foragers who bring nettles, ramps, and berries to the kitchen door. **Posana** is known for gluten-free but flavor-filled favorites such as a kale salad with Three Graces Dairy cheese, and New York strip steak crowned with Black Trumpet Farm mushrooms.

Young farmers are great matches with the up-and-coming chefs at intimate restaurants like **Jargon**, which changes its innovative menu daily to embrace the season; **Leo's House of Thirst**, known for color-rich dishes like little gems salads and fresh-herb-



dusted pastas; and **The Pure & Proper**, set inside a renovated 1940s building in Black Mountain that's a convivial gathering place for morning coffee and flavorful brunch, lunch and dinner fare.

Diners at **Sunny Point Café** can claim a table outside and tuck into one of the specials inspired by the surrounding gardens. **Cultura** is known for its experimental yet earthy six-course tasting menus that

always features at least one dish with mushrooms grown right in the dining room. At **Neng Jr.'s**, Filipinx Chef Silver locovozzi relies on Lee's One Fortune Farm Japanese eggplants to make his hugely popular talong. And family-owned and kid-approved **Foothills Grange** in Black Mountain sources juicy burgers and plump hot dogs from their own butcher shop, Foothills Meats.



### PACK IN PACK OUT

Buncombe County has amazing spots for picnicking and camping. Help keep our natural treasures pristine by not leaving anything behind.

# FIRE...

**COOKING WITH FIRE IS A HOT TREND** in local kitchens. Consider these welcoming restaurants known for sizzling over an open flame, low and slow cooking in a pit or smoker, grilling on a hearth, or wood-firing in an Italian-made brick oven.



Cúrate

**Asheville Proper**'s huge Argentinian-style wood-burning grill is the showstopper of the restaurant's open kitchen, and it gets a workout from Chef Owen McGlynn; every dish from appetizers through steaks and sides to desserts gets an element of char or smoke. **Cúrate** imported a jasper from Spain to charcoal-grill trout, lamb skewers and Iberico pork. **Cucina 24** prepares focaccia, local vegetables, and whole bran-zino on a wood-burning hearth. At stylish **ELDR**, the menu includes wood-fried pork chops, lamb chops, and game.

After working up an appetite touring the South Slope's breweries, follow the smoke signals to **Ukiah Japanese Smokehouse**, which sends Japanese soul food and southern BBQ on a date to their custom-made smoker. Try the duck hot pot or crispy baby back ribs. In RAD, **All Souls Pizza** uses a wood-fired oven to bake sensational pies as well as fire-roasted peppers and poulet rouge, and **Smoky Park Supper**

**Club** turns out sublime wood-grilled pork chops, smoked brisket, and wood-fired half chicken, plus juicy burgers. Other great bets for satisfying your flamed-grilled-burger fix include **Woodfire Grille**, **Pack's Tavern**, and **131 Main**.

In Black Mountain, **Fresh Wood Fired Pizza & Pasta** makes everything from classic cheese to bacon-clam pies with charred crusts in a domed 850-degree wood-fueled oven.

**Smokey & The Pig** is Fairview's favorite pitstop for smoked pork, beef, fish and fowl. Although Weaverville's **Glass Onion** is best known for Italian dishes, the juicy fire-grilled Black Angus Brasstown ribeye also draws raves.



# & ICE

## WHETHER YOU'RE A VANILLA PURIST OR CRAVE YOUR FLAVORS ON THE WILD SIDE

(goat cheese-tart cherry or chocolate-banana cream anyone?), you'll find refreshing icy treats at old-school parlors and hip artisan creameries. **Ultimate Ice Cream** has a near cult following for signature creations like chocolate raspberry truffle and molasses-gingerbread. In addition to standards like Belgian chocolate and salted caramel, **The Hop**—with several locations around the area—churns up cardamom and blueberry kale, and in the fall, hot apple cider floats. Fairview's **Hilltop Ice Cream**

**Shop** hand-rolls waffle cones and fills them with bear tracks, pecan praline, and almond joy. Scratch-made dairy and non-dairy gelato is **Sugar & Snow**'s sweet spot. Old school is so cool at **The Freeze of Asheville**, which doles out a side of nostalgia with their soft-serve cake cones, shakes, and banana splits.

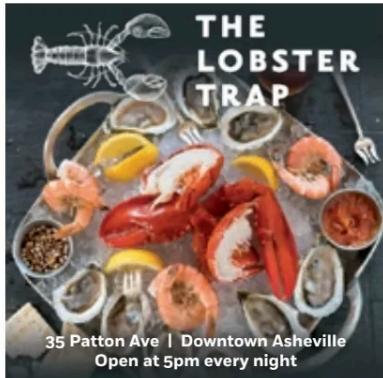
Downtown's cheerful

### Sunshine Sammies

smooshes a generous slab of house-made ice cream between two fresh-baked cookies for an irresistible melty treat. **Meadowsweet**

**Creamery** uses shortbread to make its heavenly ice cream sandwiches, sold at North Asheville Tailgate Market and Eluvium Brewery.

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## taste



# FRESH ALE, FRESH AIR

**THERE'S SOMETHING CRISP AND INTOXICATING** about the air of the Blue Ridge Mountains. At many of the region's outstanding craft breweries and taprooms, you can breathe in these rarefied breezes on a landscaped patio or terrace while savoring a well-crafted pint or two.

At Asheville's oldest brewery, **Highland Brewing**, grab a pint and settle down in the sprawling meadow, where kids can run and local bands perform. Play volleyball in the sandpit, or take to the 18-hole disc golf course. Don't miss the hidden gem **Cursus**

**Kēmē**. Sip crisp brews in their gorgeous open-air tasting room or in the tree-shaded area on the banks of the Swannanoa River. **Burial Beer Co.'s Forestry Camp** offers super food, 24 taps, and plenty of outdoor seating in their renovated 1930s former Civilian Conservation Corps camp.

A stone's throw from the River Arts District's

leafy Wilma Dykeman Greenway, **Wedge Brewing** has open-air tasting spaces at both the historic Wedge Arts Studios and the newer Foundation Studios. The greenway also passes by contemporary **New Belgium Brewery**, with a river-view tasting room and a lawn with games and food trucks, and the beer garden at **Hi-Wire Brewing**, which has colorful graffiti-style murals and a **Foothills Meats** food truck that dispenses juicy burgers.

Grab a bite from one of the rotating food trucks in the yawning riverside yard of **Zillicoah Beer Co.** Or play a free round of mini-golf or soccer at Fairview's **Whistle Hop Brewing**, located in a modified train car. In South Slope, try house-brewed sake or a local brew in the unique steam-punk biergarten at **Ben's Tune Up**.



taste

# UNCORKED

**MORE THAN 60 VINEYARDS THRIVE IN WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA,** the largest and perhaps most famous being the winery at **Biltmore Estate**. But the mountains are home to an array of mostly smaller but increasingly respected winemakers and grape growers.



Addison Farms Vineyards

## Marked Tree Vineyards

makes their wine in Flat Rock, but you can sample their crisp grüner veltliner and bold petit verdot in their downtown Asheville tasting room.

**Plēb Urban Winery**, in the River Arts District, crafts wine using grapes from across the state, offering everything from dry rosé to cabernet franc. In rural Leicester's scenic countryside, sip a glass of sangiovese and enjoy a gourmet picnic on the porch of **Addison Farms Vineyards**.

NC cidery **Botanist & Barrel** offers not just first-rate handcrafted

cider but also European-style "pétillant naturel" wines—these funky ferments blend everything from local grapes to strawberries and even pawpaw.

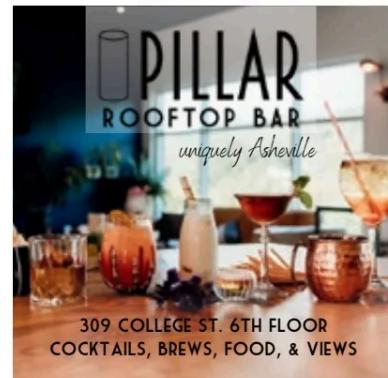
Both **Burial Beer Co.** and **Wicked Weed** have their own lines of natural wines, which you can sample in their tasting rooms.

If you'd like to explore the vineyards without having to drive, book a guided outing led by the pros at **Blue Ridge Wine Tours** or **Asheville Wellness Tours**. Asheville Wine Tours also provides safe

and knowledgeable van service to the region's tasting rooms.

If you're in the mood to pop the cork on a bottle from across the pond, pull up a seat in a local wine bar. At **Battery Park Book Exchange & Champagne Bar**, you can peruse the stacks while sipping from the cellar.

**5 Walnut** offers \$5 daily wine pours, delicious cheese boards, and live music on the weekdays. And in the River Arts District, **Bottle Riot** offers great tunes and a well-curated list of vino from around the globe.



taste

# EDIBLE SOUVENIRS

Asheville has become a nationally acclaimed producer of gourmet goods. Pick up these locally made treats as a delicious way to remember your visit!



1. Biscuit Head Cat Scratch Hot Sauce  
[biscuitheads.com](http://biscuitheads.com)

2. + 3. Biscuit Head Jams  
[biscuitheads.com](http://biscuitheads.com)

4. Roots & Branches Hand-Crafted Artisan Crackers  
[rootsandbranchesavl.com](http://rootsandbranchesavl.com)

5. French Broad Chocolates Signature Collection Bonbons  
[frenchbroadchocolates.com](http://frenchbroadchocolates.com)

6. Poppy Hand-Crafted Salted Caramel Popcorn  
[poppyhandcraftedpopcorn.com](http://poppyhandcraftedpopcorn.com)

7. + 8. Postre Caramel Sauce and Chewy Caramels  
[postrecaramels.com](http://postrecaramels.com)

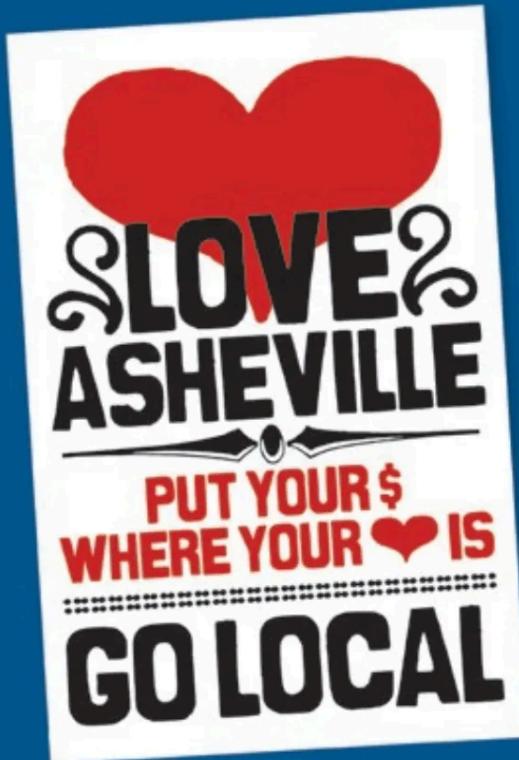
9. DJ's Small Batch Pickles  
[djspickles.com](http://djspickles.com)

10. + 11. + 12. Spicewalla Spices and Seasonings  
[spicewallabrand.com](http://spicewallabrand.com)

13. + 14. Seasoned Meat Sticks and Sweet Sopressata Salami  
[hickorynutgap.com](http://hickorynutgap.com)



**SHOP LOCAL** Order these products directly from their producers, or check out the many retailers in the area that specialize in local gourmet goodies and gifts, including Asheville Goods, Mast General Store, MTN Merch, Locals Only Gifts and Goods, and the WNC Farmers Market.



# Love Asheville? Love Discounts?

Then do what the locals do and snag a Go Local card. With it you get access to generous offers and discounts on everything from restaurants and music venues to shops and art studios at over 510 participating businesses. This program raises funds for our schools, supports locally owned, independent businesses and helps foster Asheville's unique and vibrant culture.

Visit [AshevilleGrown.com](http://AshevilleGrown.com) for all the details.





**taste**

### J Chong

Already renowned in Asheville for preparing delicious and authentic Cantonese cuisine, Chef **J Chong** vaulted to international fame when she appeared as a contestant in 2022 in the first season of the hit HBO Max cooking competition show, *The Big Brunch*. The passionate chef and activist on behalf of LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC people hosts pop-up events as well as private dinners, and she sells her sensational frozen dumplings, wontons, and sauces at the area's farmers markets.

# WORLD FARE

**ONE DELICIOUS WAY** to get to know Asheville's rich cultural diversity is by sampling these flavorful international dishes.

### Mehfil

**WHAT** Mysore Indian-style tandoori lamb chops marinated with ginger and lemon

**INSIDE TIP** The daily lunch buffet is a bargain, especially if you arrive on an empty stomach.

### Little Chango

**WHAT** Latin American arepas with pork shoulder adobo, pickled cabbage and onions, and chile de arbol sauce

**INSIDE TIP** Save room for the tres leches cake with rosewater-orange whipped cream and pistachio crunch.

### Itto Ramen Bar & Tapas

**WHAT** Scallion pancake topped with spicy crabmeat and served with a house-made eel sauce

**INSIDE TIP** Treat yourself to a bowl of tempura red bean ice cream.

### The Bush Farmhouse

**WHAT** Bobotie, a rich Durban-style curry with Cape Malay meatloaf, egg, almonds, rice, and chutney.

**INSIDE TIP** Weekend brunches are exceptional at this South African-inspired bistro. Try the satisfyingly hearty Bushman Breakfast with eggs, boerewors sausage, and chakalaka, a savory relish of tomatoes and beans.

### Khao Thai Cuisine

**WHAT** Tom Kha soup with a coconut milk broth, lemongrass, galangal ginger, lime leaves, and tofu, shrimp, or chicken

**INSIDE TIP** Thai iced tea and coffee make a robust accompaniment to any meal here.

### Cousins Cuban Cafe

**WHAT** Cubano sandwich with slow-cooked mojo pork, sweet ham, Swiss cheese, yellow mustard, and sliced pickles on Cuban bread

**INSIDE TIP** Enjoy your meal with an iced cafe con leche.

### Red Ginger Dimsum & Tapas

**WHAT** Chinese steamed shrimp-and-chive dumplings wrapped in rice skin

**INSIDE TIP** Try to snag a table on the covered patio in front overlooking Patton Avenue—it offers some of the best people-watching in town.



## SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

- Beautifully landscaped 18 hole mini golf course
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  - Ice cream from The Hop Creamery
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828.676.1746 [lakeviewputtandplay@gmail.com](mailto:lakeviewputtandplay@gmail.com)

A promotional image for White Labs Brewing Co. It features the company's logo, which is a circular emblem with a microscope and the text "WHITE LABS BREWING CO.", next to a glass of beer and a pizza. Below the logo, the text "A BREWPUB AT THE INTERSECTION OF SCIENCE AND CRAFT." is displayed. At the bottom, the address "172 S. CHARLOTTE STREET ASHEVILLE, NC 28801" and website "WHITELABS BREWING CO. COM" are provided.

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THE TIKI EASY BAR



RIVER ARTS DISTRICT



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## Naturally Appealing

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Stand-up paddleboarding  
on Biltmore Lake

[ExploreAsheville.com](https://ExploreAsheville.com) | 61



# BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY BUCKET LIST



MILEPOST 355

## STAND ATOP MOUNT MITCHELL

In this state park 30 miles from Asheville, take in the view from the highest point (elev. 6,684 feet) east of the Mississippi on an observation deck reached via a wheelchair-accessible quarter-mile path from a small but excellent museum. Come in the morning to witness great blankets of fog or at sunset for a breathtaking riot of colors.



MILEPOST 367

## ENJOY A SUNRISE PICNIC AT CRAGGY GARDENS

Start your day with a peaceful stroll through wondrous mountain foliage, including some of the world's most vibrant rhododendron blooms. There's a gorgeous, tree-shaded picnic area at one end of the two-mile trail—it's perfect for savoring coffee and breakfast while the sun floats above the horizon. At the other end of the trail, a small visitor center contains interesting exhibits.



MILEPOST 408

## ASCEND MOUNT PISGAH

For a vigorous though relatively short (three miles round-trip) trek to one of the

parkway's most rewarding viewpoints, drive 20 miles southwest on the parkway from downtown. From the top of this lofty 5,730-foot peak, you'll be treated to some of the most dramatic panoramas in the Blue Ridge range.



MILEPOST 418

## SEE WATERROCK KNOB AT SUNSET

Dozens of Parkway vantage points provide windows on world-class sunsets, but this overlook 70 miles west of the city takes the cake. The grassy picnic area beside the visitor center offers nearly 360-degrees views of the tapestry of light melting over the mountains.



MILEPOST 451

## HIKE GRAVEYARD FIELDS

Few area hikes pack so much scenery into such a short distance—just a mile and a half to be exact. On this ramble with only moderate elevation gains, notable features include wildflower-strewn mountain meadows, boundless views of valleys below, and scenic waterfalls. In late summer visitors enjoy an extra prize: bountiful wild blueberries.



## STAY ON TRACK

Keep to designated trails and durable surfaces to protect trailside plants and avoid erosion. Only camp at existing or designated sites.

Folk Art Center



MILEPOST 382

## EXPLORE THE FOLK ART CENTER

Minutes from downtown Asheville, this airy art space contains three marvelous galleries that showcase the traditional and contemporary crafts of the prestigious Southern Highland Craft Guild. You can pick up a keepsake in the Allanstand Craft Shop.



explore

#### ASHEVILLE BREWS AND VIEWS

**DAY HIKING COMBO** Hop to it on **Wildland Trekking**'s hops-infused experience that features two days of hiking and includes a stop at a renowned brewery on the drive back into town each evening.

#### MOUNTAIN TOP SUNRISE

**AND COFFEE** Let the friendly experts at **Asheville Adventures** help you greet the day properly with a two-hour hike along a scenic stretch of the Blue Ridge Parkway, complete with a steaming mug of freshly brewed local coffee.

#### FULL-DAY KAYAKING AND HIKING COMBO TOUR

For a rigorous yet refreshing session in nature, spend the morning on a glorious alpine hike led by aptly named **Hike Bike Kayak Asheville**, followed by a delicious lunch break. And then cool off in the afternoon with a kayak paddle along the river.

#### PRIVATE HALF DAY WATERFALL HIKE

If you and some friends are looking for a fun few hours in the wilderness but are not quite sure where to go, book a completely customizable outing with **Blue Ridge Hiking Company**. From roaring waterfalls to lofty peaks, they'll come up with the perfect itinerary.

## TAKE A HIKE

**ALTHOUGH IT'S EASY TO GET OUT AND EXPLORE** the region's hundreds of trails on your own, booking a guided adventure with a tour outfitter has advantages. Locally based guides know the best trails and the ideal times to hike them. Guide services can take care of the transportation, and group hikes provide the opportunity to meet like-minded explorers. Try these five guided hiking excursions.

**BLUE GHOST FIREFLY TOUR WITH NIGHT HIKE** Book early to secure a spot on this sought-after trek offered by popular **Asheville Hiking Tours** on only 11 nights during the spring. On this easy mile-long hike you'll see the magical and elusive *phausis reticulata*, aka blue ghost fireflies, that are native to Western North Carolina.

## PEDAL POWER

Buncombe County has long been a favorite cycling destination, thanks to the sinuous singletrack in spectacular Pisgah National Forest and the proximity to the Blue Ridge Parkway—a top experience for ardent road bikers. But

Asheville has also become a cycling mecca thanks to an increasing number of urban trails, such as the beautiful French Broad River Greenway, and efforts of local organizations like **Asheville on Bikes**, which advocates for bike lanes,

traffic-calming roundabouts, and regional trail systems that connect Asheville with outlying communities. **Asheville Bike Company** and **Youngblood Bicycles** offer rentals. Or enjoy a little pedal-assist by signing up for an e-bike tour through **The Flying Bike** or **Asheville Adventure Company**; the latter also rents e-bikes in the River Arts District.



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**explore**

# KIDDING AROUND

## THERE ARE ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILY FUN IN AND AROUND ASHEVILLE.

For the littlest ones, the **WNC Nature Center** is full of discovery, with pettable animals such as sheep and goats and wild creatures including bears and red wolves. Just five minutes from downtown, the **Adventure Center of Asheville** offers an exciting zipline experience geared for ages 4 to 10, plus a treetops adventure and a bike park. Then head to nearby to West Asheville's **Hole Doughnuts** for a sweet reward.

Get out on the French Broad River with one of the epic whitewater rafting trips offered by **Nantahala Outdoor Center (NOC)**. The staff can also help you plan all-ages excursions to other nearby rivers, lakes, and forests. Bikes and e-bikes from **Asheville Adventure Company** present a relaxing way to explore the area. Ready to try mountain biking? **The Bike Farm**, 30 miles southwest in Brevard, offers instruction plus guided rides in Pisgah National Forest and Dupont State Recreational Forest for both beginners and experienced riders.

For indoor fun, **Asheville Retrocade**'s 5,000 video games (plus table games like foosball) easily keep tweens and teens entertained. And even the most jaded teens have a blast on the **LaZoom City Comedy** bus tour, which are open to anyone age 13 and up. But LaZoom also offers wildly fun **Lil Boogers** tours geared specifically for younger kids. The entire family can bond over an escape room challenge with a few different companies, including **A-Escape**, **Black Mountain Escape**, and **Fox-N-Otter**—the latter is suitable for even very young ones.

You'll find engaging learning adventures here too. The **Asheville Museum of Science (AMOS)** is filled with interactive exhibits, many of them focused on geology, that are ideal for the 10-and-under crowd. And little ones love **Hickory Nut Gap Farm** in Fairview and **Sky Top Orchard** in Flat Rock for the animals—including pigs, horses, chicks, and goats—and the seasonal U-pick activities, corn mazes, and hayrides.



Hole Doughnuts



LaZoom City Comedy Bus Tour



WNC Nature Center

## FANTASTIC FALLS

**COOL OFF AND SNAP** some amazing photos at these three spectacular waterfalls within an easy drive of Asheville. Remember the cardinal rule of waterfall safety: always approach and view them from below.

### Douglas Falls

At the end of FS Road 74 in Barnardsville, an easy half-mile hike takes you to this gorgeous 70-foot cascade that can also be accessed on a longer trek from Craggy Gardens on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

### Bridal Veil Falls

About 35 miles south of Asheville in DuPont State Recreational Forest, these graceful falls make several dramatic appearances in the 1992 film *The Last of the Mohicans*.

### Catawba Falls

Approach this series of stunning cascades just 10 miles east of Black Mountain via a newly improved (it's slated to reopen in spring 2024) trail system of boardwalks, staircases, and overlooks.



Catawba Falls

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## WATER WORLD

**BISECTED BY ONE OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA'S MOST GLORIOUS RIVERS AND DOTTED WITH LAKES**, the Asheville area is ideal for rafting, kayaking, fishing, and even just splashing around on a sunny summer day.

Along the French Broad River, which is easily accessed from the River Arts District, multiple companies—such as **French Broad Outfitters, Asheville Adventure Company, Wai Mauna, Cedar Rock Adventures, and Zen Tubing**—offer stand-up paddleboard, kayak, canoe, and tube rentals, lessons, and guided tours. Thrill-seekers can find challenging rafting up near Marshall on the river's moderately difficult Section 9, but in Asheville the French Broad presents easy Class I and II rapids appropriate for even young paddlers. Many stretches are great for fishing, and outfits like **Hunter Banks Fly Fishing, Curtis Wright Outfitters, One Fly Outfitters, and Asheville Fly Fishing Company** offer charters and tours.

Everyone can have fun at the many parks and picnic areas along the river. **Carrier Park** has a playground and

sports facilities, including roller hockey, lawn bowling, and volleyball courts.

**Silver-Line Park** in Woodfin connects to walking trails, an educational wetland boardwalk, and a span of a historic rail line. To find the best entry points along the river, visit [frenchbroadpaddle.com](http://frenchbroadpaddle.com).

Lakeside parks are also terrific for swimming, paddling, or waterside strolls. At Arden's 300-acre **Lake Julian**, you can rent paddle boats or play a round of disc golf along the shoreline. Myriad scenic hiking trails lead to the forested shore of **Lake Powhatan**, with its popular swimming beach. Near Woodfin, the wetlands at **Beaver Lake Bird Sanctuary** attract loons, herons, wood ducks, and more. Other alluring spots for a waterside excursion include **Lake Louise** in Weaverville, **Lake Tomahawk** in Black Mountain, and **Lake Susan** beside Montreat College.

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explore

# MIND & BODY

**ASHEVILLE'S FRESH MOUNTAIN AIR,** lush trails, rolling rivers, and pristine natural swimming holes have established the region as a mecca for restoration and rejuvenation. Inside and out, we have oodles of opportunities to disconnect and recharge.

**Sauna House** plays it hot and cold in their private Hot-Cold-Relax rooms, which segue from sauna to ice plunge to restore. The area is rife with popular studios to cat, cow, and downward dog: **Asheville Yoga Center** offers all levels and experiences with hourly classes. Take your practice out for a woodland trek to a waterfall with **Namaste in Nature**, or let some adorable "kids" enhance your session during goat yoga at **Franny's Farm**, led by **Asheville Wellness Tours**, which also offers a range of other mindful experiences, from forest bathing to yoga hikes.

Immerse yourself in an inner adventure in a sensory-deprivation float tank at **Still Point Wellness Spa**. Become one with the salt of the earth at the **Asheville Salt Cave** or the **Salt Spa of Asheville**. Immerse yourself in ancient Japanese wellness rituals at **Shoji Spa & Retreat** with soaks, massages, treetop sauna, and a soul-warming tea service.

Whether you go rock climbing, gallery strolling, or brewery hopping, your tired toes will thank you for putting the **Wake Foot Sanctuary** on the agenda. Acupuncturists abound in Asheville, professionally licensed to cure what ails you. Nestle in a serene room with soothing singing bowls, chimes, and ocean drums at **The Sound Nest**. From almost anywhere in Asheville, a walk in the woods, a run by the river, or a view from a mountaintop is close at hand and can quickly restore your sense of calm and appreciation for beauty.



Namaste in Nature at Max Patch mountain



## DOGVILLE

**WE LOVE OUR DOGS HERE, AND WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO BRING YOURS WHEN YOU VISIT.** There's no shortage of dog-friendly accommodations in the area, from downtown hotels to short-term rentals. If your pooch is the sociable type, drop by Weaverville's **Wagbar**, an outdoor dog park and bar with beer and wine for you, and fun activities for your pup—there's even a faux fire hydrant for inspiration. It's just one of the many local watering holes with water bowls for your furry friends. Note that you must register your dog before you arrive and provide vaccine records.

If you and your four-legged friend love exploring the great outdoors, you've got lots of options. West Asheville's **Carrier Park** welcomes dogs and connects to **French Broad River Park**, where there's an off-leash dog park. For a more epic adventure, leash up and hit one of our many scenic trails, including **Bent Creek** alongside the **North Carolina Arboretum** or **Black Balsam Knob**—one of many stops and trails along the **Blue Ridge Parkway** that welcome dogs.

Don't let traveling with a pet prevent you from visiting cultural attractions. While they're not permitted indoors, leashed dogs can stroll the glorious grounds of **Biltmore**. In downtown's classy **Grove Arcade**, upbeat **Carmel's Kitchen & Bar** welcomes pups on the patio, and **Battery Park Book Exchange & Champagne Bar** is filled with comfy nooks and crannies where you can flip through a novel and sip bubbly with your leashed dog.



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# experience



## Art in Motion

WATCH A CONCERT OR A PLAY, AND  
CHECK OUT THE AMAZING ARTWORK  
THROUGHOUT ASHEVILLE.



Stewart/Owen Dance

[ExploreAsheville.com](http://ExploreAsheville.com) | 69



## STAGE & SCREEN

**ASHEVILLE'S UNABASHED LOVE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS DATES BACK GENERATIONS**, from the silent movies shot here in the 1920s to the establishment of Asheville Community Theatre to the opening of the spectacular Wortham Center for the Performing Arts in 1992. Here's a peek at some of the city's highly esteemed venues.

### Asheville Community Theatre

This state-of-the-art venue has been going strong since 1946, making it one of the longest-running community theaters in the country. These days it entices crowds with engaging educational programming and top-notch productions of Broadway hits like *Clue* and *Avenue Q*.

### Wortham Center for the Performing Arts

Anchoring downtown's vibrant Pack Square Cultural District, this impressive three-venue complex showcases acclaimed Broadway musicals, world-class dance and theater companies, and noteworthy bands, singers, and comedians.

### NC Stage Company

This intimate 127-seat theater in downtown Asheville presents off-Broadway-style for thespians young and old. The talented company stages four to seven shows each season, ranging from works by established playwrights to world premieres by up-and-coming talents.



### BeBe Theatre

Going strong since 1979, this black box space belongs to the Asheville Contemporary Dance Theatre, which is the standard for dance in Asheville. The adjoining New Studio of Dance is an incubator of dance talent and also presents works here.

### Grail Moviehouse

This beloved indie cinema in the River Arts District has three screens and serves up arthouse gems, mainstream fare, and even repertory classics from cinema's Golden Age.



### PARK IT HERE

Many of the city's concert venues, arts spaces, and nightspots are easily reached on foot or by public transit. Help reduce traffic and pollution by leaving your car behind whenever possible.



experience

# ART IN THE WILD

**IT'S ONLY FITTING THAT** in a city with spectacular natural scenery, the local art scene thrives outdoors, from vibrant murals to powerful public installations to mind-expanding tours and festive art walks.

## MEANDER PAST MURALS

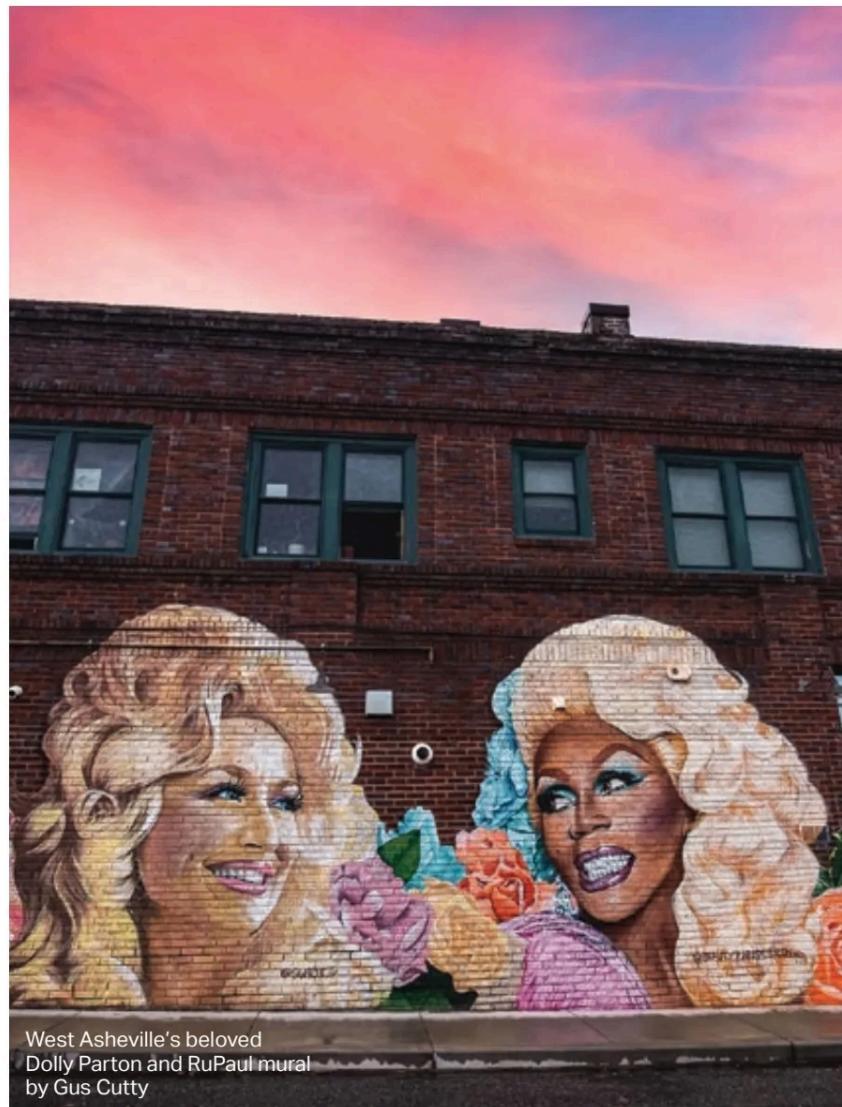
To grasp the story and style behind Asheville's flourishing kaleidoscope of murals, take a trip with **Mountain Mural Tours**, whose docents lead small-group bus outings to key sites. Or head out on your own Lexington Avenue's **Gateway Mural**, the **South Slope Mural Trail**, the River Arts District's **Foundation Walls Project**, downtown's **Indigenous Walls Project**, and West Asheville's hot strip, **Haywood Road**, crowned by Gus Cutty's captivating portrait of Dolly Parton and RuPaul.

## HIT THE URBAN TRAIL

The self-guided **Asheville Urban Trail** comprises 30 sculptural stations that tell the story of the city's most iconic buildings, historic statues, and modern installations. You'll discover Asheville's Art Deco wonders, diverse cultural heritage, and connections to such luminaries as Rafael Guastavino, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Thomas Wolfe, and O'Henry. You can see many of the trail's key highlights in and around Pack Square.

## GO ON AN ART WALK

From April through December, **First Friday Art Walks** are the perfect time to drop in on as many as 20 downtown art museums and galleries for openings, demonstrations, and more. And the River Arts District is ideal for art strolling, especially during the **Annual Fall Studio Stroll** in November, and monthly **Second Saturday** gallery walks throughout the year, which put visitors up close and personal with more than 200 artists. For a hands-on adventure, check out the custom tours offered by **Asheville Art Experience**—they include options for making your very own works of art.



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75 Gashes Creek Road, Asheville



## experience

in the country, **YMI Cultural Heritage**, is expanding into a new era. Both buildings are on the trail dedicated to respected brickmason **James Vester Miller** ([exploreasheville.com/james-vester-miller-trail](http://exploreasheville.com/james-vester-miller-trail)), who also built **St. Matthias Episcopal Church** and **Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church**.

In West Asheville, Burton Street is a historically black enclave that's home to the **Peace Garden** and **Hood Huggers International** tour company. You can stroll through the garden daily, and on Friday afternoons drop by and buy fresh fruits, vegetables, and other tasty goods. Created by passionate owner DeWayne Barton, Hood Huggers offers eye-opening walking and driving tours that focus on local Black art and history.

Several eateries and bars have strong ties with Asheville's Black community. Come to the rooftop space at **Capella on 9** for fine views and tasty tapas prepared by star chef Rakim Gaines. **Benne on Eagle**, a casually elegant eatery on The Block, serves soul-inspired cuisine at brunch and dinner. Also check out the **AVL Cake Lady** for banana pudding cupcakes, **Haywood Lounge** for chicken wings in many flavors, and the **Double Crown** for its gospel and soul nights.

## ASHEVILLE SOUL

**SEEK OUT THESE SPOTS THAT HIGHLIGHT OUR REGION'S VIBRANT BLACK CULTURE AND HERITAGE.**

### FROM HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOODS

to expressive murals to thriving businesses, the deep roots of Asheville's Black community reveal themselves in captivating ways. Start with the **Black Cultural Heritage Trail**, which is expected to open in early 2024 and will connect the past and the present by highlighting important—yet often underrecognized—people, places, events, and achievements.

A top spot to quickly immerse yourself in the community is **Grind AVL**, a welcoming coffeehouse and events space in the River Arts District that's also a gathering space for **Black Wall Street AVL**, a nonprofit incubator that nurtures Black

entrepreneurs. Stop by for a coffee and stick around for the conversation. You can also learn about upcoming events, including marketplaces, parties, and the annual **GrindFest** weekend in late May.

Steps from Pack Square, you can explore one of the state's most storied and historic Black business districts, **The Block**, whose heyday was in the late-19th and early-20th centuries. The inspiring murals of **Triangle Park** bring the Black community's generations of stories to colorful life, and **Noir Collective** features works by local and Southern Black artists. Next door, one of the oldest cultural hubs of Black heritage





# ESPÍRITU LATINO

Connecting with the region's dynamic Latinx community

## WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA'S

fastest-growing demographic makes up nearly 20% of the region. One of the most festive ways to be a part of local Latinx culture is by attending Hola Asheville, a vibrant gathering of food, music, dance, and cultural exchange held in Pack Square in June. The event is produced by the community-supportive nonprofit, Hola Carolina, which has a boutique beside downtown's LEAF Global Arts Center.

Stop by **Contemporaneo Gallery**, owned by Venezuelan-born artist Francisco Troconis and his husband, Gary Culbertson, to view the varied collection of works, many by acclaimed Latinx artists. On Wednesday nights, West Asheville's **One World Brewery** hosts a Latin Night featuring dancing (including lessons) to salsa, bachata, reggaeton, and more. The nearby **Alley Cat Social Club** also regularly hosts themed nights with salsa music and also tango lessons and dancing. An invigorating way to get out and about in the community is to sign up for a hike with **Latinos Aventureros**, a Latino-led, bilingual group of local outdoors enthusiasts who lead treks throughout the region's stunning mountainscapes.

A few miles south of Asheville Regional Airport, **Smiley's Flea Market** is the state's largest, with more vendors carrying antiques,

vintage items, and gifts, some of them—including several food stands—with Latinx ties. A favorite is **Taqueria Los Gallos**, serving barbacoa lamb tacos and rich pozole. Buncombe County's celebrated culinary scene abounds with talented Latinx chefs and entrepreneurs. For a sweet treat, stop by **Short Street Cakes**, and for refreshing popsicles in creative flavors—such as strawberry-lemonade and coconut-cinnamon—look for **Buggy Pops** at local tailgate markets. Other restaurants offering authentic and diverse Latin American flavors include **Cecilia's Kitchen**, **Little Chango**, **Guajiro Cuban Comfort Food**, **Taste of El Salvador**, and **Taqueria Muñoz**. And **Limones**, **Papa's and Beer**, and **Salsa's** all specialize in Mexican cooking.



North Carolina Glass Center

## HANDS-ON

**IF ASHEVILLE'S COOL ARTS SCENE** ignites your own creative spark, take a class at one of the area's many workshops and studios. Open your eyes to the worlds of watercolor, oil, palette knife, and other forms of painting at **310 Art** in the River Arts District.

Nearby, the **North Carolina Glass Center** offers classes in its hot shop on everything from miniature sculpture to drinking vessels and paperweights; a second location is set to open in Black Mountain in 2024.

**Downtown's Fired Up!** **Creative Lounge** offers painting classes as well as sessions on glass-fusing and pottery, and at **Button Clayworks**, you can try your hand at pinched, coil, slab, and wheel-thrown pottery. Find out about classes and workshops in the River Arts District at [riverartsdistrict.com](http://riverartsdistrict.com). If you've been bitten by Asheville's literary bug, check out the workshops offered by the **Writers' Workshop of Asheville**. And to explore stunning scenery while honing your photography skills, book an intimate, hands-on experience offered by **WNC Photo Tours**.

experience

# MOUNTAIN MADE

Asheville's creative spirit attracts makers of all kinds. From art to home goods, apparel and body care, jewelry and much more, locally made products showcase the region's amazing range and depth of originality, here for you to discover and take home.

1. + 2. + 3.

**Citizen Vinyl**

Tote bag, record player slip mat, and beanie cap  
[citizenvinyl.com](http://citizenvinyl.com)

4. + 5.

**Noir Collective**

Fabric doll by Jenny Pickens and handmade soaps from Wintress Daughter  
[noircollectiveavl.com](http://noircollectiveavl.com)

6. + 7. + 8.

**Sassafras on Sutton**

Greeting card by Lauren Younis of A Quartzy Life and scented candles from Southern Lit Kandles  
[sassafrasonssutton.com](http://sassafrasonssutton.com)

9. + 10.

**Artisans on Main**

Mug from Laura Keyes Pottery and noodle bowl from Anne Jerman  
[mtnmade.com](http://mtnmade.com)

11. + 12.

**Mora Jewelry**

Earrings by Joanna Gollberg and necklace by Anna Johnson  
[moracollection.com](http://moracollection.com)

13. + 14.

**Local Cloth**

Natural-dyed shirt from Freehand Fiber and blanket from Blue Ridge Blanket Project  
[localcloth.org](http://localcloth.org)



ExploreAsheville.com | 75

## experience

# DINNER & A SHOW

**IN THIS CITY** with a fantastic reputation for food and art, savor dinner at a stellar restaurant before heading out to watch an acclaimed band take the stage at an electrifying music venue, or see a great movie or a popular play at a terrific theater.



Vivian



The Orange Peel

## DINNER

### Bull & Beggar

Grilling up mouthwatering French-accented farm-to-table fare in a cool River Arts District space, this swanky bistro also serves up sensational steaks.

### Rocky's Hot Chicken Shack

At this West Asheville purveyor of Nashville-style hot chicken, choose your spice level (anything from face-melting hot to mild sweet-honey sauce) along with classic Southern sides like sweet potato casserole and corn pudding.

### Mamacita's

This long-beloved downtown taqueria dishes out made-from-scratch pulled pork burritos and mammoth nachos platters along with potent margaritas.

### Vivian

This hip yet unpretentious River Arts District bistro with a James Beard-nominated chef serves up gorgeously plated European-inflected cuisine made with farm-fresh Appalachian ingredients.

### Limones

On Eagle Street near Pack Square, this chic Mexican restaurant serves artful fare inspired by the Mexico City-born chef's mother and his training in San Francisco.

### Tall John's

This airy, contemporary neighborhood tavern in historic Montford has an approachable gastro-pub menu and a notable beverage program.

## SHOW

### The Grey Eagle

Asheville's oldest indie music club books both burgeoning and established rock and folk acts and has hosted everyone from R.L. Burnside to the Avett Brothers.

### The Odd

Whether you're in the mood for burlesque or drag shows, or seeing punk or hardcore bands, this quirky joint is a sure bet for inspired, offbeat performances.

### The Orange Peel

Two doors down catch a show at this iconic music club that's hosted the Commodores, Bob Dylan, Wilco, and countless other luminaries.

### The Magnetic Theatre

Renowned for alternative plays, The Magnetic is an itinerant company that produces diverse programming at different venues, including readings, the One Act Play Festival, and mainstage productions.

### Fine Arts Theater

Opened as The Strand in 1947, this intimate two-screen movie house in the heart of downtown shows the best of indie, foreign, and art cinema.

### Hazel Robinson Amphitheatre

Home to the Montford Park Players, this charming outdoor venue presents classic plays—Shakespeare is a specialty—Friday through Sunday, free of charge, from May through October.

# GALLERYCOR

Elevated Works *by* Asheville Artists



19 Biltmore Ave., Ste. 102, Asheville • Downtown Arts District  
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# JEFFREY

THE JEWEL OF ASHEVILLE

Originally from NYC, Jeffrey specializes in custom, ceremonial, and heritage pieces. Their creations can be found in editorials, billboards, TV shows, and films. Discover their artistry paired with a highly curated selection of beautiful fragrances, and collaborations at their shop in the River Arts District.



LEVI CONNELL:  
20 Antler Way, Suite 101  
Asheville, NC 28801



646.986.0472 / [jeffreyjewelry.com](http://jeffreyjewelry.com)  
[jeffreyjewelry@comcast.net](mailto:jeffreyjewelry@comcast.net)



## ASHEVILLE ART MUSEUM

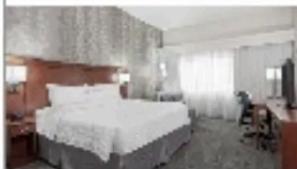
Explore American art of the  
20th and 21st centuries.

2 South Pack Square  
Downtown Asheville  
828.253.3227  
[ashevilleart.org](http://ashevilleart.org)

# WHY NOT TREAT YOURSELF?

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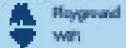
## GET AWAY FROM IT ALL IN THE HEART OF ASHEVILLE



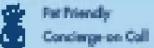
Experience the breathtaking beauty of Asheville and the Blue Ridge Mountains. Whether you're planning for a romantic getaway or a family vacation, our 50-acre resort provides the perfect backdrop.

When you stay with us you can select from an upscale cabin, yurt, or tiny home - amenities include; Wi-Fi, a playground, our friendly concierge services, and a beautiful stream right on our property.

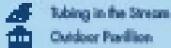
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As you scan the lodging charts, use the convenient color tab at the left of each property's listing to determine its location in the greater Asheville area.

North	East	South	West	Downtown	Black Mountain	Biltmore Village	River Arts District	Weaverville
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**A**fter a busy day exploring, you're going to need a spot to rest your head. Relax—we've got just the place to stay, whatever your personal travel style. Wake up to a stunning mountain backdrop in one of Asheville's hotels and resorts, enjoy the delights of a bed & breakfast tucked into a historic neighborhood, or stay steps away from it all at a bustling boutique hotel in the heart of downtown. Or if the outdoors are calling, get cozy in a secluded cabin hideaway or vacation rental. No matter your restful needs, Asheville is ready to tuck you in.

North	East	South	West	Downtown	Black Mountain	Biltmore Village	River Arts District	Weaverville
-------	------	-------	------	----------	----------------	------------------	---------------------	-------------

Bed & Breakfast	# OF SITES/ ROOMS	ADA-FRIENDLY	RESTAURANT ON SITE	FREE BREAKFAST	NON-SMOKING	PETS ALLOWED	SWIMMING POOL	INDOOR SWIMMING POOL	FITNESS ROOM	MEETING ROOM
<b>1899 Wright Inn and Carriage House</b> 235 Pearson Dr, (828) 251-0789, wrightinn.com	11			✓	✓	✓				
<b>1900 Inn on Montford</b> 296 Montford Ave, (828) 254-9569, innonmontford.com	8	✓		✓	✓	✓				✓
<b>Abbington Green B&amp;B Inn</b> 46 Cumberland Cir, (828) 251-2454, abbingtongreen.com	9	✓		✓	✓	✓				
<b>Albemarle Inn</b> 86 Edgemont Rd, (828) 255-0027, albemarlein.com	11			✓	✓	✓				✓
<b>The Applewood Manor</b> 62 Cumberland Cir, (828) 254-2244, applewoodmanor.com	6			✓	✓	✓				✓
<b>Beaufort House Inn</b> 61 North Liberty St, (828) 254-8334, beauforthouse.com	11			✓	✓					✓
<b>Bent Creek Lodge</b> 10 Parkway Crescent, (828) 654-9040, bentcreeknc.com	13	✓		✓	✓					✓
<b>Biltmore Village Inn</b> 119 Dodge St, (828) 274-8707, biltmorevillageinn.com	8			✓	✓					
<b>Black Walnut B&amp;B Inn</b> 288 Montford Ave, (828) 254-3878, blackwalnut.com	8	✓		✓	✓					
<b>Bunn House</b> 15 Clayton St, (828) 333-8700, bunnhouse.com	5				✓					✓
<b>Carolina Bed &amp; Breakfast</b> 177 Cumberland Ave, (828) 254-3608, carolinabb.com	7			✓	✓					
<b>Cedar Crest Inn</b> 674 Biltmore Ave, (828) 252-1389, cedarcrestinn.com	16			✓	✓	✓				
<b>Chestnut Street Inn</b> 176 East Chestnut St, (828) 989-1729, chestnutstreetinn.com	8			✓	✓					
<b>Gray Rock Inn</b> 100 Biltmore Ave, (828) 515-4729, grayrockinn.com	7	✓			✓					
<b>The Lion and the Rose B&amp;B</b> 276 Montford Ave, (828) 255-7673, lion-rose.com	5			✓	✓					
<b>North Lodge on Oakland B&amp;B</b> 84 Oakland Rd, (828) 252-6433, northlodge.com	6			✓	✓					
<b>Oakland Cottage B&amp;B</b> 74 Oakland Rd, (828) 994-2627, oaklandcottage.com	7			✓	✓	✓				✓
<b>Pinecrest B&amp;B</b> 249 Cumberland Ave, (828) 281-4275, pinecrestbb.com	5			✓	✓					
<b>Princess Anne Hotel</b> 301 East Chestnut St, (828) 258-0986, princessannehotel.com	16			✓	✓	✓				
<b>Red Rocker Inn</b> 136 North Dougherty St, (828) 669-5991, redrockerinn.com	17		✓	✓	✓	✓				
<b>Reynolds Mansion B&amp;B Inn</b> 100 Reynolds Hts, (828) 258-1111, therenoldsmansion.com	11			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Sweet Biscuit Inn</b> 77 Kenilworth Rd, (828) 250-0170, sweetbiscuitinn.com	8			✓	✓	✓				
<b>Wildberry Lodge</b> 135 Potato Branch Rd, (828) 683-2525, wildberrylodge.com	7			✓	✓					✓

## LODGING LISTINGS

Hotels / Motels	# OF SITES/ ROOMS	ADA-FRIENDLY	RESTAURANT ON SITE	FREE BREAKFAST	NON-SMOKING	PETS ALLOWED	SWIMMING POOL	INDOOR SWIMMING POOL	FITNESS ROOM	MEETING ROOM
<b>AC Hotel by Marriot Asheville Downtown</b> 10 Broadway St, (828) 258-2522, <a href="http://marriott.com">marriott.com</a>	132	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Aloft Asheville Downtown</b> 51 Biltmore Ave, (828) 232-2838, <a href="http://aloftashevilledowntown.com">aloftashevilledowntown.com</a>	115	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Apple Blossom Motel</b> 602 West State St, (828) 669-7922, <a href="http://appleblossommotel.com">appleblossommotel.com</a>	20			✓	✓					
<b>The Asheville Inn</b> 1 Acton Cir, (828) 665-2100, <a href="http://theavlinn.com">theavlinn.com</a>	25			✓	✓					
<b>Baymont Inn and Suites Asheville - Biltmore</b> 204 Hendersonville Rd, (828) 274-2022, <a href="http://baymontinns.com">baymontinns.com</a>	71	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		
<b>The Beaucatcher - a boutique motel</b> 60 Tunnel Rd, (828) 254-0805, <a href="http://thebeaucatcher.com">thebeaucatcher.com</a>	30			✓	✓					
<b>Best Western of Asheville Blue Ridge Parkway</b> 501 Tunnel Rd, (828) 298-5562, <a href="http://ashevillebw.com">ashevillebw.com</a>	95	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Blind Tiger Asheville</b> 173 East Chestnut St, (828) 253-2553, <a href="http://larkhotels.com/hotels/blind-tiger-asheville">larkhotels.com/hotels/blind-tiger-asheville</a>	14	✓		✓	✓	✓				
<b>Brookstone Lodge</b> 4 Roberts Rd, (828) 398-5888, <a href="http://choicehotels.com/nc912">choicehotels.com/nc912</a>	73	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		
<b>Cambria Hotel Downtown Asheville</b> 15 Page Ave, (828) 348-4850, <a href="http://cambriadowntownasheville.com">cambriadowntownasheville.com</a>	136	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	
<b>Candlewood Suites Asheville Downtown</b> 49 Tunnel Rd, (828) 220-0300, <a href="http://ihg.com">ihg.com</a>	103	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Clarion Inn Asheville Airport</b> 550 Airport Rd, (828) 684-1213, <a href="http://choicehotels.com">choicehotels.com</a>	150	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Clarion Inn Biltmore Village</b> 234 Hendersonville Rd, (828) 274-0101, <a href="http://choicehotels.com">choicehotels.com</a>	69	✓		✓	✓		✓			
<b>Comfort Inn Biltmore West</b> 15 Crowell Rd, (828) 665-6500, <a href="http://comfortinn.com">comfortinn.com</a>	62	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			
<b>Comfort Inn Tunnel Road East</b> 1435 Tunnel Rd, (828) 298-4000, <a href="http://choicehotels.com">choicehotels.com</a>	85	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			
<b>Comfort Suites Outlet Center</b> 890 Brevard Rd, (828) 665-4000, <a href="http://choicehotels.com">choicehotels.com</a>	125	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Country Inn and Suites Asheville West</b> 1914 Old Haywood Rd, (828) 665-9556, <a href="http://countryinns.com">countryinns.com</a>	80	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
<b>Country Inn and Suites Asheville Downtown Tunnel Road</b> 199 Tunnel Rd, (828) 254-4311, <a href="http://countryinns.com">countryinns.com</a>	74	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
<b>Country Inn and Suites by Radisson Asheville at Asheville Outlet Mall</b> 845 Brevard Rd, (828) 670-9000, <a href="http://choicehotels.com/nca73">choicehotels.com/nca73</a>	57	✓		✓	✓		✓			
<b>Country Inn and Suites Asheville River Arts District</b> 22 Westgate Pkwy, (828) 772-3188, <a href="http://countryinnashevilleriverartsdistrict.com">countryinnashevilleriverartsdistrict.com</a>	94	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Courtyard by Marriott Asheville</b> 1 Buckstone Pl, (828) 281-0041, <a href="http://courtyardsasheville.com">courtyardsasheville.com</a>	78	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
<b>Courtyard by Marriott Asheville Airport</b> 360 Rockwood Rd, (828) 684-5000, <a href="http://marriott.com">marriott.com</a>	91	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	

## **Hotels / Motels**

<b>Courtyard by Marriott Asheville Biltmore Village</b> 26 Meadow Rd, (828) 782-5000, marriott.com	112	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Crowne Plaza Asheville</b> 1 Resort Dr, (828) 254-3211, ashevillecp.com	272	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Days Inn - Asheville North</b> 3 Reynolds Mountain Blvd, (828) 645-9191, daysinn.com	49	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Days Inn by Wyndham, Asheville West</b> 2551 Smokey Park Hwy, (866) 665-2031, wyndhamhotels.com	116	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>DoubleTree by Hilton Asheville Biltmore</b> 115 Hendersonville Rd, (828) 274-1800, doubletreeasheville.com	197	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>DoubleTree by Hilton Asheville Downtown</b> 199 Haywood St, (828) 505-8500, hilton.com	140	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Downtown Inn and Suites</b> 120 Patton Ave, (828) 254-9661, downtowninnandsuites.com	92	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Econo Lodge - Biltmore</b> 190 Tunnel Rd, (828) 254-9521, choicehotels.com	53	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Element Asheville Downtown</b> 62 College Pl, (828) 575-5881, marriott.com	100	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Elevation Lofts Hotel</b> 52 Broadway St, (828) 761-7742, elevationloftshotel.com	6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Embassy Suites by Hilton Asheville Downtown</b> 192 Haywood St, (828) 407-0422, hilton.com	188	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Extended Stay America Asheville</b> 6 Kenilworth Knoll, (828) 253-3483, extendedstayamerica.com	101	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Fairfield Inn and Suites Asheville Outlets</b> 11 Rocky Ridge Rd, (828) 665-4242, marriott.com	92	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Fairfield Inn and Suites Asheville Tunnel Road</b> 184 Tunnel Rd, (828) 274-2001, marriott.com	80	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Fairfield Inn and Suites Asheville Weaverville</b> 25 Fairfield Approach Dr, (828) 645-9000, marriott.com	103	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>The Flat Iron Hotel</b> 20 Battery Park Ave, (828) 579-2106, ashevilleflatiron.com	71	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>The Foundry Hotel Asheville, Curio Collection By Hilton</b> 51 South Market St, (828) 552-8545, foundryasheville.com	87	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Four Points by Sheraton - Asheville Downtown</b> 22 Woodfin St, (828) 253-1851, fourpointsasheville.com	150	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>GLō Best Western Asheville Tunnel Road</b> 509 Tunnel Rd, (828) 417-9300, bestwestern.com	72	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Grand Bohemian Hotel Asheville</b> 11 Boston Way, (828) 505-2949, bohemianasheville.com	104	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Hampton Inn - Black Mountain</b> 306 Black Mountain Ave, (828) 669-1000, hamptoninn3.hilton.com	95	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Hampton Inn and Suites Asheville - Biltmore Village</b> 117 Hendersonville Rd, (828) 277-1800, AshevilleBiltmoreArea.HamptonByHilton.com	118	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## LODGING LISTINGS

	# OF SITES/ ROOMS	ADA-FRIENDLY	RESTAURANT ON SITE	FREE BREAKFAST	NON-SMOKING	PETS ALLOWED	SWIMMING POOL	INDOOR SWIMMING POOL	FITNESS ROOM	MEETING ROOM
<b>Hampton Inn and Suites - Biltmore Area</b> 835 Brevard Rd, (828) 575-9593, <a href="http://AshevilleBiltmoreArea.HamptonByHilton.com">AshevilleBiltmoreArea.HamptonByHilton.com</a>	114	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Hampton Inn Asheville - Tunnel Road</b> 204 Tunnel Rd, (828) 255-9220, <a href="http://ashevilletunnelroad.hamptoninn.com">ashevilletunnelroad.hamptoninn.com</a>	117	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Haywood Park Hotel</b> 1 Battery Park Ave, (828) 252-2522, <a href="http://haywoodpark.com">haywoodpark.com</a>	48	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
<b>Hilton Asheville Biltmore Park</b> 43 Town Square Blvd, (828) 209-2700, <a href="http://hiltonasheville.com">hiltonasheville.com</a>	165	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Hilton Garden Inn Asheville Downtown</b> 309 College St, (828) 255-0001, <a href="http://hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com">hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com</a>	140	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Hilton Garden Inn Asheville South</b> 9 Rocky Ridge Rd, (828) 633-6024, <a href="http://ashevillesouth.hgi.com">ashevillesouth.hgi.com</a>	111	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	
<b>Holiday Inn and Suites Arden - Asheville Airport</b> 9 Brian Blvd, (828) 684-6000, <a href="http://ihg.com">ihg.com</a>	111	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	
<b>Holiday Inn Asheville - Biltmore West</b> 435 Smokey Park Hwy, (828) 665-2161, <a href="http://ihg.com">ihg.com</a>	156	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Holiday Inn Asheville East</b> 1450 Tunnel Rd, (828) 298-5611, <a href="http://holidayinnashevilleeast.com">holidayinnashevilleeast.com</a>	111	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Holiday Inn Express &amp; Suites, Asheville Downtown</b> 42 Tunnel Rd, (828) 225-5550, <a href="http://ihg.com">ihg.com</a>	111	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Holiday Inn Express Outlets</b> 12 Rocky Ridge Rd, (828) 665-6519, <a href="http://ihg.com/holidayinnexpress">ihg.com/holidayinnexpress</a>	108	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Home2 Suites by Hilton Asheville Airport</b> 390 Airport Rd, (828) 676-1776, <a href="http://hilton.com">hilton.com</a>	112	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
<b>Home2 Suites by Hilton Asheville Biltmore Village</b> 61 Thompson St, (828) 348-1560, <a href="http://home2suitesasheville.com">home2suitesasheville.com</a>	117	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Homewood Suites by Hilton Asheville</b> 88 Tunnel Rd, (828) 252-5400, <a href="http://asheville.homewoodsuites.com">asheville.homewoodsuites.com</a>	94	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
<b>Hotel Indigo - Asheville Downtown</b> 151 Haywood St, (828) 239-0239, <a href="http://ashevilleindigo.com">ashevilleindigo.com</a>	115	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
<b>Hyatt Place Asheville Airport</b> 329 Rockwood Rd, (828) 676-3300, <a href="http://hyatt.com">hyatt.com</a>	108	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>The Inn on Biltmore Estate</b> 1 Antler Hill Rd, (828) 225-1410, <a href="http://biltmore.com">biltmore.com</a>	210	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Kimpton Hotel Arras</b> 7 Patton Ave, (828) 255-0303, <a href="http://hotelarras.com">hotelarras.com</a>	128	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
<b>The Monte Vista Hotel</b> 308 West State St, (828) 669-8870, <a href="http://themontevistahotel.net">themontevistahotel.net</a>	45	No	✓		✓	✓				✓
<b>Mount-Vue Motel</b> 15 Tunnel Rd, (828) 258-9001	9									
<b>The Mountaineer Inn</b> 155 Tunnel Rd, (828) 254-5331, <a href="http://themountaineerinn.com">themountaineerinn.com</a>	78	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Nakon Motel</b> 1233 Smokey Park Hwy, (828) 667-4543, <a href="http://nakonmotelcandler.us">nakonmotelcandler.us</a>	16	✓					✓			
<b>The Omni Grove Park Inn</b> 290 Macon Ave, (828) 210-7879, <a href="http://omnihotels.com">omnihotels.com</a>	513	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## **Hotels / Motels**

<b>Plantation Motel</b> 2195 Smokey Park Hwy, (828) 667-1649	23	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Princess Anne Hotel</b> 301 E Chestnut St, (828) 251-0789, princessannehotel.com	16	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Quality Inn Asheville Downtown Tunnel Road</b> 180 Tunnel Rd, (828) 505-4648, choicehotels.com	57	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Quality Inn - Black Mountain</b> 585 NC Highway 9, (828) 669-9950, choicehotels.com	57	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Quality Inn and Suites - Biltmore East</b> 1430 Tunnel Rd, (828) 298-5519, choicehotels.com	132	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>The Radical</b> 95 Roberts St, (828) 412-0200, theradicalavl.com	70	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Red Roof Inn - Asheville West</b> 16 Crowell Rd, (828) 667-9803, redroof.com	109	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Renaissance Asheville Downtown Hotel</b> 31 Woodfin St, (828) 252-8211, renaissanceasheville.com	278	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Residence Inn Biltmore</b> 701 Biltmore Ave, (828) 281-3361, biltmorefarmshotels.com	72	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Residences at Biltmore</b> 700 Biltmore Ave, (828) 350-8000, residencesatbiltmore.com	109	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>The Restoration Asheville</b> 68 Patton Ave, (828) 220-0368, therestorationhotel.com	60	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Rock Haven Terrace Motel</b> 1464 Patton Ave, (828) 255-0219, rockhavenasheville.com	18	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Rodeway Inn - Asheville</b> 8 Crowell Rd, (828) 667-8706, choicehotels.com	62	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Rodeway Inn and Suites - Biltmore Square</b> 9 Wedgefield Dr, (828) 670-8800, choicehotels.com	65	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>The Scenic Hotel in Biltmore Village</b> 184 Hendersonville Rd, (828) 277-0026, scenichotelasheville.com	117	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Sleep Inn - Biltmore West</b> 1918 Old Haywood Rd, (828) 670-7600, ashevillesleepinn.com	74	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>SpringHill Suites by Marriott Asheville</b> 2 Buckstone Pl, (828) 253-4666, springhillsuitesasheville.com	88	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Super 8 - Black Mountain</b> 101 Flat Creek Rd, (828) 669-8076, wyndhamhotels.com	85	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Super 8 by Wyndham Asheville/Biltmore</b> 1415 Tunnel Rd, (828) 774-5420, wyndhamhotels.com	104	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Thunderbird Motel</b> 835 Tunnel Rd, (828) 298-4061	34	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>TownePlace Suites Asheville Downtown</b> 39 Elm St, (828) 407-4200, marriott.com	83	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>TownePlace Suites Asheville West</b> 141 South Bear Creek Rd, (828) 575-9900, marriott.com/avta	104	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Village Hotel on Biltmore Estate</b> 207 Dairy Rd, (800) 411-3812, biltmore.com	208	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## LODGING LISTINGS

## Hotels / Motels

	# OF SITES/ ROOMS	ADA-FRIENDLY	RESTAURANT ON SITE	FREE BREAKFAST	NON-SMOKING	PETS ALLOWED	SWIMMING POOL	INDOOR SWIMMING POOL	FITNESS ROOM	MEETING ROOM
<b>Whispering Pines Motel</b> 140 Smokey Park Hwy, (828) 665-1611, whispering-pines-motel.allashevillehotels.com	16				✓					
<b>The Windsor Boutique Hotel</b> 36 Broadway St, (844) 494-6376, windsorasheville.com	14	✓		✓						
<b>WoodSpring Suites</b> 40 Monte Vista Rd, (828) 418-1400, woodspring.com	105	✓		✓	✓	✓				
<b>Zelda Dearest</b> 150 South Lexington Ave, (828) 514-2489, zeldadearest.com	20	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				

## Cabins / Rentals

	# OF SITES/ ROOMS	ADA-FRIENDLY	RESTAURANT ON SITE	FREE BREAKFAST	NON-SMOKING	PETS ALLOWED	SWIMMING POOL	INDOOR SWIMMING POOL	FITNESS ROOM	MEETING ROOM
<b>Arras Vacation Rentals</b> 7 Patton Ave, (828) 210-8151, arrasvacationrentals.com	10	✓		✓	✓				✓	
<b>Asheville Cabins of Willow Winds</b> 39 Stockwood Rd Ext, (828) 277-3948, ashevillecabins.com	25			✓	✓					
<b>Asheville Cottages</b> 29 Asheville Cottage Ln, (828) 712-1789, ashevillecottages.com	15			✓						
<b>Asheville River Cabins</b> 318 Wanderlust Rdg, (828) 684-9147, ashevillerivercabins.com	31			✓	✓					
<b>Asheville Swiss Chalets</b> 7 North Delano Rd, (828) 645-8101, ashevilleswisschalets.com	11			✓	✓					
<b>Asheville Vacation Villas</b> 1 Resort Dr, (828) 254-3211, ashevilevacationvillas.com	30	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Cabins of Asheville</b> 25 Little Stoney Fork Rd, (828) 367-7068, cabinsofasheville.com	19			✓	✓					
<b>Carolina Mornings Luxury Vacation Rentals</b> 44 Merrimon Ave, Ste 2, (855) 398-0712, carolinamornings.com	160	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>The Cove at Fairview</b> 24 Fairview Cove Rd, (828) 628-4967, thecoveatfairview.com	6			✓						
<b>Earth and Sky Dwellings</b> contact for booking, (828) 712-4714, earthandskydwellings.com		✓		✓						
<b>The Farm Cabins and Cottages</b> 215 Justice Ridge Rd, (828) 667-0666, thefarmcabins.com	7	✓		✓	✓					✓
<b>Greybeard Rentals</b> 204 East State St, (866) 430-5166, greybeardrentals.com	220	✓		✓	✓					
<b>Inn on Westwood</b> 82 Westwood Pl, (828) 619-1466, innonwestwood.com	4			✓						
<b>JuneBug Retro Resort</b> 355 Clarks Chapel Rd, (828) 208-1979, junebugretroresort.com	10	✓			✓					



## Cabins / Rentals

	# OF SITES/ ROOMS	ADA-FRIENDLY	RESTAURANT ON SITE	FREE BREAKFAST	NON-SMOKING	PETS ALLOWED	SWIMMING POOL	INDOOR SWIMMING POOL	FITNESS ROOM	MEETING ROOM
<b>Lake Eden Retreat</b> 377 Lake Eden Rd, (855) 525-3336, lakeedenevents.com	8			✓	✓					✓
<b>Laurel Mountain Retreat</b> 6 Deerborne Ln, (828) 417-4835, laurelmtnrt.com	7	✓		✓	✓					
<b>The Log Cabin Motor Court</b> 330 Weaverville Rd, (828) 645-6546, theashevillecabins.com	21			✓	✓					
<b>Mountain Springs Cabins</b> 27 Emma's Cove Rd, (828) 665-1004, mtnsprings.com	19			✓	✓					
<b>Ox Glen Vacation Rentals</b> 376 Ox Creek Rd, (828) 645-2974, oxglen.com	8			✓	✓					
<b>The Pines Cottages</b> 346 Weaverville Rd, (828) 645-9661, thepinescottages.com	14			✓	✓					
<b>Pisgah View Ranch</b> 70 Pisgah View Ranch Rd, (828) 667-9100, pisgahviewranch.net	39	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓
<b>Shoji Spa and Lodge</b> 96 Avondale Heights Rd, (828) 299-0999, shojispa.com	2	✓		✓						
<b>Vacation in Asheville: Cabin and Vacation Rentals</b> 74 Oakland Rd, (828) 994-2627, vacationinasheville.com	4				✓	✓				
<b>Wrong Way River Lodge and Cabins</b> 9 Midnight Dr, (828) 585-7747, wrongwaycampground.com	16	✓		✓	✓					✓
<b>Yonder Luxury Vacation Rentals</b> 778 Fairview Rd, (888) 699-2987, yondervacationrentals.com	245			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

## Camping & Hostels

	# OF SITES/ ROOMS	ADA-FRIENDLY	RESTAURANT ON SITE	FREE BREAKFAST	NON-SMOKING	PETS ALLOWED	SWIMMING POOL	INDOOR SWIMMING POOL	FITNESS ROOM	MEETING ROOM
<b>Asheville Bear Creek RV Park and Campground</b> 81 South Bear Creek Rd, (828) 253-0798, ashevillebearcreek.com	100+	✓			✓	✓				
<b>Asheville East KOA</b> 2708 Highway 70 East, (828) 686-3121, ashevilleeastkoa.com	100+				✓	✓				
<b>Asheville Hostel and Guest House</b> 16 Ravenscroft Dr, (828) 423-0256, avlhostel.com	3			✓						
<b>Asheville West KOA</b> 309 Wiggins Rd, (828) 665-7015, koa.com/campgrounds/asheville-west	77			✓	✓	✓				
<b>The Lazy Tiger Hostel</b> 104 Weaverville Rd, (828) 782-3157, lazytigerhostel.com	22		✓	✓						
<b>Sweet Peas Hostel</b> 23 Rankin Ave, (828) 285-8488, sweetpeashostel.com	3	✓			✓					

# ASHEVILLE

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# MAPS



## Know Before You Go

### VISITOR INFORMATION CENTERS

#### ASHEVILLE VISITOR CENTER-MAIN

Phone: (828) 258-6129  
Toll-free: (877) 468-6285  
36 Montford Ave (I-240, Exit 4C)  
Asheville, NC 28801  
8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon-Fri  
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat-Sun  
ExploreAsheville.com

#### Make the visitor center your first stop.

Learn about tours (and even jump aboard a couple of them). Purchase tickets to Biltmore and other attractions, get maps, and buy locally made items and souvenirs at the Asheville Shop.



for parking information visit [ExploreAsheville.com/parking](http://ExploreAsheville.com/parking)

#### BLACK MOUNTAIN-SWANNANOA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VISITOR CENTER

Phone: (828) 669-2300  
201 E State St  
Black Mountain 28711  
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon-Sat  
noon-5 p.m. Sun  
[ExploreBlackMountain.com](http://ExploreBlackMountain.com)

#### BY CAR

The area is accessible from I-40, I-26, and I-240; and from US 19/23, US 25, US 25A, US 70, and US 74.

#### AIR TRAVEL

Asheville Regional Airport (AVL) (828) 684-2226  
61 Terminal Dr (I-26, Exit 40)  
Fletcher, NC 28732  
[FlyAVL.com](http://FlyAVL.com)  
About 17 miles south of downtown Asheville, AVL is served by six airlines: Allegiant, American, Delta, JetBlue, Sun Country, and United, with nonstop service to some 25 destinations. The airport is currently undergoing some exciting improvements, including a brand-new terminal and more parking. With construction planned through

2026, be sure to allow extra time to get to the airport and through the terminal. AVL is served by most major rental car companies.

#### ROAD CONDITIONS/ASSISTANCE

North Carolina Department of Transportation (dial \*HP from if you require emergency roadside assistance while on the interstate). For road conditions, call 511.

#### BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY

Call (828) 298-0398 for road conditions and closure information.

## Already Here?

#### Gray Line Trolley Tours of Asheville

See the best of Asheville from aboard a vintage trolley. Hop on and off as you enjoy a fully narrated tour covering major points of interest. Purchase tickets at the Asheville Visitor Center. Visit [ExploreAsheville.com/trolleytours](http://ExploreAsheville.com/trolleytours) for more information.

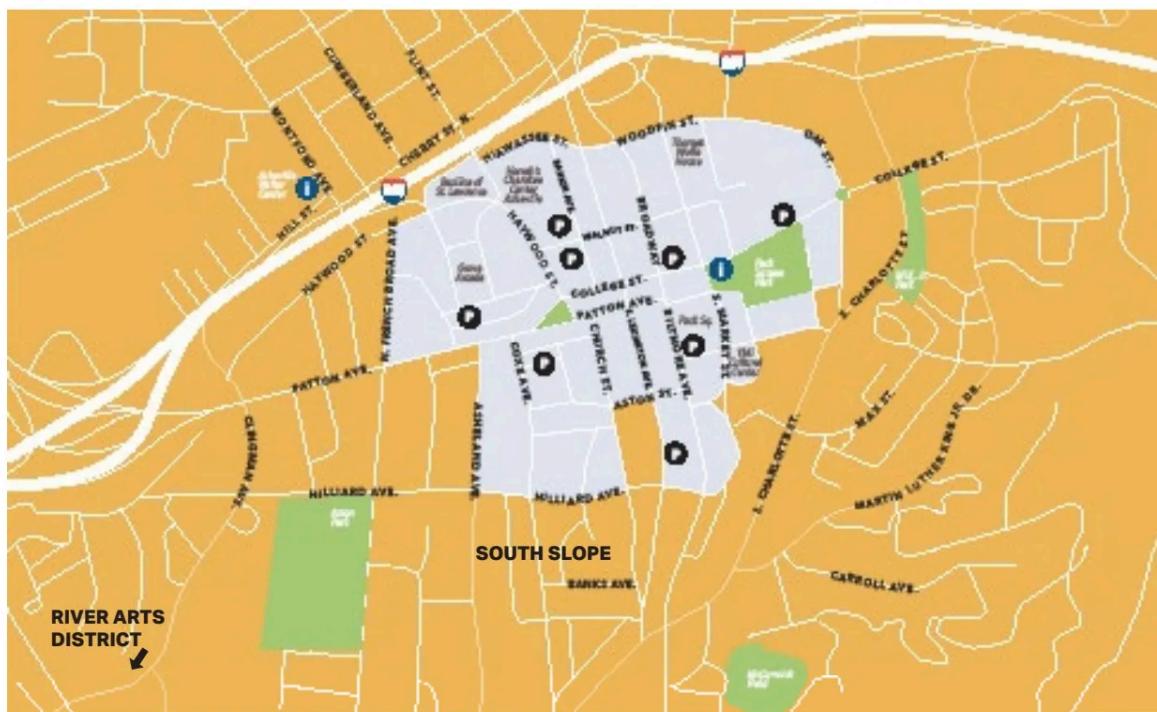
#### LOCAL TRANSIT

Asheville Transit Authority (828) 253-5691, [ridetheart.com](http://ridetheart.com)  
Throughout Asheville and to and from Black Mountain.

#### TRAVELERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

ACCESS North Carolina offers *A Guide to Travel Site Accessibility*. Call (800) VISIT NC (847-4862) for a free copy.

## DOWNTOWN ASHEVILLE



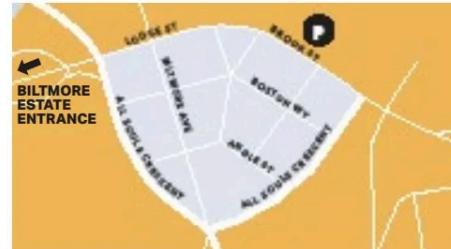
## RIVER ARTS DISTRICT



## BLACK MOUNTAIN



## BILTMORE VILLAGE



## WEAVERVILLE



# Goin' to Town

These three words meant a trip to look forward to. In **Asheville**, they still do. Downtown is where you'll find tasty restaurants, craft breweries, and nifty live music venues. At **Mast Store**, we bid a warm welcome to country gourmets, intrepid explorers, gift-givers, time-passers, and curious onlookers. The products on our shelves may keep changing, but our desire to meet your needs with friendly customer service is time-honored.



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